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THE

WORKS

OF

THE RIGHT HON. HENRY ST. JOHN,

LORD VISCOUNT BOLINGBROKE.

VOL. VII.

~~528 m. 16~~

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LETTERS

AND

CORRESPONDENCE,

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE,

OF

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE HENRY ST. JOHN,

LORD VISCOUNT BOLINGBROKE,

DURING THE TIME HE WAS

SECRETARY OF STATE

TO

QUEEN ANNE;

WITH

STATE PAPERS, EXPLANATORY NOTES, AND A TRANSLATION OF THE FOREIGN LETTERS, *&c.*

BY GILBERT PARKE, WADH. COLL. OXON.

CHAPLAIN TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES.

VOL. II.

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1798.

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

LETTERS

AND

CORRESPONDENCE, &c.

To the Earl of Dartmouth.

MY LORD,

Fontainbleau, Auguſt 21ſt, N.S. 1712.

I LEFT Calais on Monday, according to what I writ to your Lordſhip from that place, and proceeded on my journey to Paris, where I arrived about ſix o'clock Wedneſday, in the evening. On the road, I took all poſſible precaution to conceal my name, and to avoid all ſort of ceremony, by ſtopping to refreſh myſelf as little as poſſible, and, when I did ſtop, by chooſing to do it out of the great towns. My care was, however, in great meaſure, fruitleſs; and they did their utmoſt, in the places through which I paſſed, to ſhow their reſpect to the Queen; ſo that I arrived at leaſt as much fatigued with compliments as tired with my journey.

Soon after I got out of my chaiſe, a gentleman came to me from Madame de Croiſſi *, brought her coach, invited me to ſupper, and

* The mother of the Marquis de Torcy, and widow of the brother of the great Colbert.

told me, that Monſieur de Torcy was coming poſt from Fontainbleau to meet me. In effect, I had not been long at the Hôtel de Croiſſi before he arrived. There was no reſiſting his importunity, as well as his mother's, and I was forced to continue with them during my ſtay at Paris. In theſe two days I loſt no time, but purſued her Majeſty's inſtructions * with all the application I am maſter of; and I humbly hope that I have been ſo happy as to anſwer the purpoſes for which ſhe ſent me hither.

We

* " Inſtructions for our right truſty and well-beloved Couſin and Counſellor Henry Viſcount Bolingbroke, whom we have appointed to go to the Court of France.

" ANNE R.

" You are immediately to repair to the Court of France, and, being arrived there, to demand an audience of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty. You are to preſent to this Prince our letter, which is herewith delivered to you, and to acquaint him, that we obſerve with great concern, that new difficulties have ariſen, and new delays have been created, in the negociation, which we thought on the point of being concluded; that we have ſent you over fully inſtructed in all our intentions, and fully authoriſed to treat and ſettle every thing neceſſary to remove the obſtructions which hinder the general ſuſpenſion of arms from taking place; that you are likewiſe empowered to concert with his Miniſters the moſt proper means of preventing ſuch other differences as can be now foreſeen, and of ſetting the treaty of peace in ſuch a courſe as may bring it to a happy and ſpeedy concluſion. You are to add the aſſurances of our earneſt deſire to ſee a perfect good underſtanding between the two nations reſtored, and to uſe all other terms of civility which may be proper, in our name.

" When you proceed to treat with the Miniſters at this Court, you will begin by acquainting them, that we have directed and empowered you to conclude and execute the convention for a general ſuſpenſion of arms, by ſea and land, between us and France and Spain. And we do hereby authoriſe you accordingly to agree to the ſame for two, for three, or four months, or to continue it till the concluſion of the peace. But, whereas we have not yet received ſatisfaction in thoſe demands which we have thought fit to make in the behalf of the Duke of Savoy, and whereas the ſettlement of the term for the ſuſpenſion of arms muſt, in great meaſure, be governed by the time which the complete execution of the article for preventing the union of the two monarchies of France and Spain will require, you are, therefore, before you ſign the convention aforeſaid, to expect poſitive aſſurances that the terms which we demand of France and Spain ſhall be made good to his Royal Highneſs; and, as far forth as poſſible, to adjuſt and determine the forms of the ſeveral renunciations and ſettlements.

" As to the barrier which his Royal Highneſs demands, and judges neceſſary for his ſecurity, on the ſide of France, you are not required to inſiſt to have thoſe articles immediately granted which have been hitherto peremptorily refuſed by his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty; nor, on the other hand, are you to agree to any thing which may foreclose the Duke of Savoy from negociating for himſelf: this point we chooſe to leave to be ſettled between the two powers concerned. But you will not fail to recommend to the French Miniſters, to haſten the concluſion of it, inſinuating to them, that though you can agree to the ſuſpenſion of arms, without waiting to have this barrier entirely ſettled, yet that you do not imagine there will be any poſſibility of prevailing on us to ſign the peace with France and Spain, unleſs full ſatisfaction be given to his Royal Highneſs, and unleſs we can take him along with us in the doing thereof. There ſeems to be little or no difference between what has been propoſed from hence and what is agreed to on the part of France, concerning the right to be eſtabliſhed in the Duke of Savoy and his children, immediately after Philip and his children, to the ſucceſſion to the crown of Spain and the Weſt Indies. You are, therefore, to

have

We began with the intereſts of the Duke of Savoy, from whence the principal obſtacle to the concluſion of the ſuſpenſion of arms by ſea and

have this article again explained, and to bring it as near as poſſible to the terms made uſe of in the memorial drawn by the Count de Maffei upon this ſubject.

" Concerning the ceſſion of Sicily, you are to inſiſt that it be made in the manner demanded by us; and that this act, as well as thoſe neceſſary on the precedent head, be finiſhed at the ſame time as the renunciation and ſettlements of the crown of France and Spain ſhall be made.

" You are to refuſe to conſent to defer the actual ſurrender of this iſland to his Royal Highneſs till the general peace; but you are at liberty to agree that he ſhall not take poſſeſſion thereof until his and our peace be made with France and Spain: in other reſpects, you will bring this article likewiſe as near as poſſible to the terms made uſe of by the Count de Maffei in his memorial.

" It ſeems too indifferent to either ſide whether a formal ſuſpenſion of arms be agreed to between France and Savoy or not, to have this matter much inſiſted on; and there may be ſome reaſons why in prudence the Duke of Savoy's accommodation ſhould be yet a while concealed. You will, therefore, have the leſs regard to this point; and treat for his Royal Highneſs upon the ſuppoſition and condition of his coming into the peace when we ſhall do ſo. And whereas it has been ſurmiſed that his Royal Highneſs might think of exchanging Sicily for ſome other territories contiguous to his own, which would by no means be agreeable to our deſigns, or to the intereſts of our kingdoms; you may, therefore, conſent to an article to prevent the exchange or alienation of this kingdom from the Houſe of Savoy.

" As to the ſecond point, which you are to adjuſt as far forth as is poſſible, we have directed what has been prepared by the Civilians upon this ſubject to be put into your hands, of which you will make the beſt uſe you are able; and you will endeavour to agree the ſeveral forms in ſuch a manner, and to concert ſuch meaſures for the diſpatch of them, that when the perſons whom we ſhall think fit to appoint to be witneſſes of theſe renunciations and ſettlements ſhall arrive in France and Spain, there may be as little room as poſſible left for diſpute or delay.

" The Moſt Chriſtian King being very earneſt to obtain ſome advantageous conditions for the late Elector of Bavaria, you are to inform the French Miniſters that we ſhall readily agree to have this Prince reſtored to all which he enjoyed in the empire, except his rank of firſt Elector, and except the Upper Palatinate, both of which are to remain and belong to the Elector Palatine. We think think this a ſufficient conceſſion on our part in favour of the Prince above-mentioned; who being in poſſeſſion of Namur, Luxemburg, Charleroy, and Nieuport, uſe may be made thereof in the general treaty of peace; and he may have an opportunity there, in exchange for theſe places and countries, to obtain ſomething further for himſelf.

" You may, however, if you ſhall find it for our ſervice, conſent on our part that he have the kingdom of Sardinia yielded to him; for the obtaining thereof the poſſeſſions juſt now mentioned ſeem to be an adequate ſecurity.

" In treating of the ſeveral matters entruſted to your management, you are to have eſpecial care to avoid entangling us in any new engagements; and for that purpoſe you are to ſay, and to repeat, that we ſhall willingly enter into the common guaranty for ſupporting that ſettlement of Europe which ſhall be eſtabliſhed by the general peace, but that we will not be tied down to any ſtipulation which may oblige us to make war, and eſpecially with our old allies, in order to procure this ſettlement. It is advantage enough to France that the conduct of our allies has made it reaſonable, juſt, and even neceſſary, for us to withdraw ourſelves out of the preſent war.

" After you ſhall have received ſufficient ſatisfaction in all points before-mentioned, you may proceed to ſpeak of ſuch articles as relate particularly to the intereſts of Great Britain, and endeavour to have ſuch of them as there may appear to be any doubt concerning, explained in the moſt advantageous manner.

" You will likewiſe do your beſt to diſcover, upon the ſeveral parts of the general plan of peace, what the real ultimatum of France may be. And upon this head you are to ſay, that, when we ſhall conclude our treaty, it may be expedient to fix a time for the allies to come in; during which our good offices ſhall be empl yed to reconcile the diſputes which may ariſe, and to render the

and land aroſe; and, after ſome conteſtation, have adjuſted them in this manner:

The right of this Prince, and of his family, to the Crown of Spain and the Indies, after Philip and his deſcendants, is to be ſubſtituted in the ſame acts, and at the ſame time, as the ſeveral renunciations and ſettlements are made, declared, and confirmed, which are neceſſary to accompliſh the article for preventing the union of the two monarchies.

Monſieur de Torcy endeavoured to leave this point more looſe, and either to defer ſecuring the ſucceſſion of the Houſe of Savoy, or, at leaſt, not to eſtabliſh it in the ſame acts as are to paſs on the other occaſion; but as I judged this to be the ſafeſt and moſt authentic manner, I inſiſted, and he yielded.

On the ceſſion of Sicily, he would have adhered to the terms of his laſt diſpatch; and urged the abſurdity of giving this kingdom away, till they were ſure of making peace with Savoy. It was not difficult to ſhow that he had already departed from this argument, and that there could be no reaſonable objection to Philip's making a ceſſion of Sicily to the Duke of Savoy, at the ſame time as he conſented to ſecure to him the ſucceſſion of Spain and the Indies; that if peace did not follow, every thing which had been done would of courſe be void;

peace general; but we ſhall not do any thing like impoſing the ſcheme offered by France upon our allies, or debarring them from the liberty of endeavouring to obtain ſtill better terms for themſelves.

"When you ſhall have concluded the convention for the ſuſpenſion of arms, you may diſpatch to our truſty and well-beloved Sir John Jennings, Knight, our Admiral and Commander-in-chief of our fleet in the Mediterranean; to our truſty and well-beloved William Chetwynd, Eſq. our Envoy-extraordinary to the republic of Genoa; and to the Commander-in-chief of our troops in Catalonia, our orders which are herewith put into your hands: and at the ſame time you are to concert with the Miniſters of France, not only the ſafe retreat of the Emperor's forces out of Catalonia, if his Imperial Majeſty ſhall think fit to withdraw them, but alſo the march of the Portugueſe troops, which are now ſerving there, back to their own country.

"We have likewiſe ordered fifty paſſes, ſigned by us, in blank, to be put into your hands, which you will exchange againſt the like number, as ſoon as the ſuſpenſion ſhall be agreed; and you may acquaint the French Miniſters that more will be ſent from hence by every opportunity.

"Given at our Court at Windſor Caſtle, the 31ſt day of July, 1712, in the eleventh year of our reign. "A. R."

and

and that if it did follow, the conſideration for which this iſland was yielded would be obtained. This point being over, there was little diſpute about the time when his Royal Highneſs ſhall be put into the actual poſſeſſion of this kingdom:—we have ſettled it to be on the ratification of a general peace between the Queen, France, Spain, and Savoy.

The Count de Maffei may not, perhaps, be ſatisfied with this agreement; and I remember, in his memorial, he deſired his maſter might be at liberty at any time to take poſſeſſion; but the Duke of Savoy ought to look upon it as a very good bargain, and to be contented to have the advantages which are to accrue to him, put into his hands, when thoſe which her Majeſty ſtipulated for herſelf are put into her's.

I wiſh I could have prevailed on the head of the barrier* as far as I did on the other two; but it was impoſſible, at leaſt it was ſo for me. Monſieur de Torcy repreſented that Exilles, Feneſtrelles, and the Valley of Pragelas, beſides the reſtitution of all which France is in poſſeſſion of, was the utmoſt which the King would ever conſent, or had ever conſented, to give; that when the Miniſters of Savoy made, in Holland, the ſame ulterior demands which they now make, the Penſionary laughed at them, and even at that time did not puſh him to comply with them; that, under pretence of ſecurity, his Royal Highneſs really ſought an aggrandizement at the expence of France, and out of the ancient domain of this Crown; that though a King of France was a more powerful Prince than a Duke of Savoy, yet that the latter, backed by a confederacy, which is the only caſe wherein he will attempt any thing, is a dreadful enemy to the former; that they have here a minority to expect, and therefore ought to be the more careful not to leave the frontiers of their kingdom expoſed; in ſhort, that Sicily was an ample recompence to his Royal Highneſs for all the ſervices he

* For Savoy.

has

has done the Queen, and that if her Majeſty was eaſy, he was ſure the Duke of Savoy would ſubmit; he concluded by repeating, very earneſtly, that the King never would grant him a larger barrier, and that his Majeſty inſiſted to put this negative now, ſince he was reſolved to do it at laſt, leſt the Duke ſhould, by continuing in hopes, ſpin out the treaty and delay concluding the peace, for which reaſon he likewiſe inſiſted that the Queen ſhould concur in this negative.

It is needleſs to lengthen my diſpatch by telling your Lordſhip, what anſwers I made to theſe repreſentations. I replied in the beſt manner I was able, and ended, as I am inſtructed, by letting the miniſter know, that the Queen would conſent to nothing which ſhould forecloſe his Royal Highneſs from obtaining what, for ought ſhe knew, might be neceſſary; that this point muſt therefore not be now looked upon as determined, but muſt be left open for the miniſters of Savoy to debate; that I did not underſtand her Majeſty's intentions to be to enlarge the Duke of Savoy's dominions out of thoſe of France, but that I was ſure ſhe would not ſign a peace, unleſs this Prince's ſecurity was really and effectually provided for, which France having promiſed in general terms to all the allies, could not refuſe, in any particular, to the Duke of Savoy.

The next head to which we proceeded, was that of the renunciations and ſettlements neceſſary to prevent the union of the two crowns, and in treating of this I cannot ſay that I met with any difficulty. I gave no hopes that any expedient would be accepted to ſign the peace, before this article was entirely accompliſhed, though Monſieur de Torcy propoſed, that the peace ſhould not be delayed for it, but the ratifications ſhould. He has ſince conſulted Monſieur Bergheyck *, and they are of opinion, that a month, or at moſt ſix weeks' time will ſuffice to paſs all the forms, ſo that I am deſired to recommend the diſ-

* Count de Bergheyck, Plenipotentiary of Spain.

patch of my Lord Lexington *, or who ever elſe the Queen ſhall think fit to ſend into Spain; and I crave leave to ſay, that it would be extremely out of courſe, if in France and Spain; they ſhould be ready to finiſh this important article, and we ſhould on our parts not be ready to witneſs the execution of it, eſpecially when we puſh the concluding of the peace, and refuſe to ſign until all theſe forms are perfected.

The draught of Philip's act of renunciation, and the minutes taken by Monſieur de Torcy and me †, both which I tranſmit to your Lordſhip,

* Appointed Ambaſſador-extraordinary to the Court of Madrid, to be preſent at the cortes held to receive the renunciation of Philip.

† *Minutes taken by Lord Bolingbroke and Monſieur de Torcy.*

"MEMOIRE.

" *Pour Monſieur le* DUC *de* SAVOYE.

" La ſubſtitution du Duc de Savoye & de ſa famille à la couronne d'Eſpagne & des Indes, ſera faite dans le tems que l'article qui regarde la réunion des deux monarchies recevra ſon accompliſſement: cette ſubſtitution ſera inſérée dans tous les actes de renonciation, tant du Roi d'Eſpagne que de Monſieur le Duc de Berry & de Monſieur le Duc d'Orléans. Elle ſera reconnue de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne comme auſſi des cortes d'Eſpagne. Le tout ſelon le projet contenu dans la lettre du Vicomte de Bolingbroke au Marquis de Torcy, du 17me Juillet, V.S.

" La Sicile ſera cédée au Duc de Savoye dans le tems que la ſuſdite ſubſtitution ſera faite. Monſieur de Lexington, ou tel miniſtre que la Reine enverra en Eſpagne, étant arrivé à Madrid, le Roi d'Eſpagne ſignera un article ſecret, par lequel il promettra de céder la Sicile à Monſieur le Duc de Savoye, par la paix ou générale ou particulière, & de lui laiſſer la poſſeſſion de ce royaume après l'échange des ratifications. Son Alteſſe Royale pourra prendre la poſſeſſion actuelle de cette iſle dès que les ratifications ou de la paix générale, ou de la paix particulière entre la Grande Bretagne, la France, l'Eſpagne, & la Savoye, ſeront faites & échangées. Et la Reine eſt prête à convenir avec ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne un article (1) pour empêcher que ſon Alteſſe Royale ne puiſſe ni échanger ni aliéner la dite iſle, ſous quelque cauſe ou prétexte que ce ſoit. On ſuivra tant à l'égard de la ceſſion de Sicile que de la ſubſtitution de ſon Alteſſe Royale la lettre ci-deſſus rappelée du Vicomte de Bolingbroke au Marquis de Torcy, du 17me Juillet, dans tous les points qui ne reçoivent pas du changement par ce mémoire.

" Quant à la barrière de ſon Alteſſe Royale, on peut poſer pour principe que la Reine ne ſouhaite pas ſon aggrandiſſement du côté de la France, & qu'elle ne demande que la ſureté de ce Prince; laquelle ſureté a été déjà promiſe par ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne, à tous les alliés de ſa Majeſté Britannique. Les miniſtres de France prétendent que cette ſureté ſe trouve dans les offres que le Roi a fait à ſon Alteſſe Royale de lui céder Exilles, Féneſtrelles, & la Vallée de Pragelas. Ceux du Duc de Savoye inſiſtent, au contraire, ſur pluſieurs autres points, comme indiſpenſablement néceſſaire à cette ſureté. La Reine, qui ne peut pas prendre ſur elle la déciſion de cette affaire, deſire que les raiſons de ſon Alteſſe Royale ſoient examinées, & qu'il en ſoit décidé avec ceux de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne à Utrecht.

" *Sur l'explication de l'article pour empêcher la réunion des deux monarchies.*

" On ſuivra ce qui eſt contenu dans les articles propoſés par ſa Majeſté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne pour une ſuſpenſion d'armes, le 6me Juin, V.S. & accepté par ſa Majeſté le Roi Très

(1) Le Roi convient de paſſer cet article.

Chrétienne

has done the Queen, and that if her Majeſty was eaſy, he was ſure the Duke of Savoy would ſubmit; he concluded by repeating, very earneſtly, that the King never would grant him a larger barrier, and that his Majeſty inſiſted to put this negative now, ſince he was reſolved to do it at laſt, leſt the Duke ſhould, by continuing in hopes, ſpin out the treaty and delay concluding the peace, for which reaſon he likewiſe inſiſted that the Queen ſhould concur in this negative.

It is needleſs to lengthen my diſpatch by telling your Lordſhip, what anſwers I made to theſe repreſentations. I replied in the beſt manner I was able, and ended, as I am inſtructed, by letting the miniſter know, that the Queen would conſent to nothing which ſhould foreclose his Royal Highneſs from obtaining what, for ought ſhe knew, might be neceſſary; that this point muſt therefore not be now looked upon as determined, but muſt be left open for the miniſters of Savoy to debate; that I did not underſtand her Majeſty's intentions to be to enlarge the Duke of Savoy's dominions out of thoſe of France, but that I was ſure ſhe would not ſign a peace, unleſs this Prince's ſecurity was really and effectually provided for, which France having promiſed in general terms to all the allies, could not refuſe, in any particular, to the Duke of Savoy.

The next head to which we proceeded, was that of the renunciations and ſettlements neceſſary to prevent the union of the two crowns, and in treating of this I cannot ſay that I met with any difficulty. I gave no hopes that any expedient would be accepted to ſign the peace, before this article was entirely accompliſhed, though Monſieur de Torcy propoſed, that the peace ſhould not be delayed for it, but the ratifications ſhould. He has ſince conſulted Monſieur Bergheyck *, and they are of opinion, that a month, or at moſt ſix weeks' time will ſuffice to paſs all the forms, ſo that I am deſired to recommend the diſ-

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" *Pour Monſieur le* DUC *de* SAVOYE.

" La ſubſtitution du Duc de Savoye & de ſa famille à la couronne d'Eſpagne & des Indes, ſera faite dans le tems que l'article qui regarde la réunion des deux monarchies recevra ſon accompliſſement: cette ſubſtitution ſera inſérée dans tous les actes de renonciation, tant du Roi d'Eſpagne que de Monſieur le Duc de Berry & de Monſieur le Duc d'Orléans. Elle ſera reconnue de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne comme auſſi des cortes d'Eſpagne. Le tout ſelon le projet contenu dans la lettre du Vicomte de Bolingbroke au Marquis de Torcy, du 17me Juillet, V.S.

" La Sicile ſera cédée au Duc de Savoye dans le tems que la ſuſdite ſubſtitution ſera faite. Monſieur de Lexington, ou tel miniſtre que la Reine enverra en Eſpagne, étant arrivé à Madrid, le Roi d'Eſpagne ſignera un article ſecret, par lequel il promettra de céder la Sicile à Monſieur le Duc de Savoye, par la paix ou générale ou particulière, & de lui laiſſer la poſſeſſion de ce royaume après l'échange des ratifications. Son Alteſſe Royale pourra prendre la poſſeſſion actuelle de cette iſle dès que les ratifications ou de la paix générale, ou de la paix particulière entre la Grande Bretagne, la France, l'Eſpagne, & la Savoye, ſeront faites & échangées. Et la Reine eſt prête à convenir avec ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne un article (1) pour empêcher que ſon Alteſſe Royale ne puiſſe ni échanger ni aliéner la dite iſle, ſous quelque cauſe ou prétexte que ce ſoit. On ſuivra tant à l'égard de la ceſſion de Sicile que de la ſubſtitution de ſon Alteſſe Royale la lettre ci-deſſus rappelée du Vicomte de Bolingbroke au Marquis de Torcy, du 17me Juillet, dans tous les points qui ne reçoivent pas du changement par ce mémoire.

" Quant à la barrière de ſon Alteſſe Royale, on peut poſer pour principe que la Reine ne ſouhaite pas ſon aggrandiſſement du côté de la France, & qu'elle ne demande que la ſureté de ce Prince; laquelle ſureté a été déjà promiſe par ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne, à tous les alliés de ſa Majeſté Britannique. Les miniſtres de France prétendent que cette ſureté ſe trouve dans les offres que le Roi a fait à ſon Alteſſe Royale de lui céder Exilles, Féneſtrelles, & la Vallée de Pragelas. Ceux du Duc de Savoye inſiſtent, au contraire, ſur pluſieurs autres points, comme indiſpenſablement néceſſaire à cette ſureté. La Reine, qui ne peut pas prendre ſur elle la déciſion de cette affaire, deſire que les raiſons de ſon Alteſſe Royale ſoient examinées, & qu'il en ſoit décidé avec ceux de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne à Utrecht.

" *Sur l'explication de l'article pour empêcher la réunion des deux monarchies.*

" On ſuivra ce qui eſt contenu dans les articles propoſés par ſa Majeſté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne pour une ſuſpenſion d'armes, le 6me Juin, V.S. & accepté par ſa Majeſté le Roi Très

(1) Le Roi convient de paſſer cet article.

Chrétienne

ſhip, will, I ſuppoſe, be a ſufficient ground-work of inſtructions to thoſe whom her Majeſty ſhall chooſe to ſend hither and to Madrid.

The laſt point, and that on which we had the warmeſt debates, was concerning the Elector of Bavaria: as ſoon as I arrived at Paris, I heard that he was come to Chaillot, in the neighbourhood, and Monſieur de Torcy, either was, or affected to be, under ſome uneaſineſs at the reproaches which this Prince would, he ſaid, with reaſon give them, unleſs they provided better for him, than the Queen had hitherto ſeemed inclined to allow. He turned this matter ſeveral ways, and made variety of propoſitions, which it was plain enough were not extempore, though he appeared deſirous I ſhould look upon them as ſudden thoughts, which occurred to him in treating; at laſt he reſted on this, that the Queen ſhould engage to procure for the Elector, the duchy and electorate of Bavaria, excluſive of the Upper Palatinate and the rank in the Electoral College, which I had from the firſt peremptorily rejected; and that ſhe ſhould farther promiſe to maintain him in the poſſeſſion of the duchies and towns of Luxembourg and Namur, and in the poſſeſſion of Charleroi and Nieuport, until ſuch an equivalent for theſe countries and places was given him as he ſhould

Chrétienne dans les réponſes qu'il a données le 22me du même mois, N.S. La Reine dépêchera ſans perte de tems, le miniſtre qu'elle a deſſein d'envoyer en Eſpagne, & toutes les ſuſdites rénonciations ſeront faites & acceptées par ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne, dans l'eſpace de ſix ſemaines, ou plutôt s'il eſt poſſible. Cet article ſouffrira d'autant moins de difficulté que le Roi l'a déjà accordé, & que ſi la paix générale ou particulière ne s'enſuit point, tous ces actes doivent être nuls.

"*Sur les intérêts de l'*ELECTEUR *de* BAVIERE.

"La Reine eſtime qu'il eſt juſte que l'Electeur de Bavière ſoit rétabli dans la poſſeſſion du duché & electorate de Bavière, à l'exception toutefois du Haut Palatinat, qui demeurera & appartiendra avec le dignité & le rang de premier Electeur à l'Electeur Palatin, & à ſon défaut au Prince Charles de Neubourg ſon frère, de ſorte que le dit Electeur de Bavière, ne pourra eſpérer de parvenir qu'après la mort de l'Electeur Palatin, & de ſon frère ſeulement.

"La Reine ne juge pas qu'il ſoit néceſſaire qu'elle s'engage d'employer actuellement ſes offices pour obtenir quelque choſe de plus pour l'Electeur de Bavière, puiſque les miniſtres de France ſe ſerviront de la poſſeſſion des Pays & places dont ce Prince jouit préſentement dans les Pays Bas, pour lui procurer la Sardagne. Mais ſa Majeſté ne s'y oppoſera en aucune manière. C'eſt tout ce qu'on peut attendre d'elle, car il faut tomber d'accord qu'il ſeroit peu convenable à l'honneur & aux intérêts de la Reine de prendre de nouvaux engagemens avec un Prince qui eſt à préſent ſon ennemi, pendant qu'elle ne peut pas remplir tous ceux qu'elle a pris avec ſes alliés."

"A Fontainbleau, le 21me d'Août, 1712."

be ſatisfied with; this propoſition I poſitively refuſed to aſſent to, and told Monſieur de Torcy very plainly, that leaving theſe towns and places in the Elector's poſſeſſion, till he had ſuch an equivalent as he ſhould be ſatisfied with, was really giving them abſolutely to him. which I knew her Majeſty neither could nor would admit; farther, that her Majeſty would enter into no engagement to procure any thing for the Elector, or even to uſe her offices in his behalf; that the towns and places which this Prince is in poſſeſſion of, would very probably be an inducement to the allies to give him ſomething in lieu of them, that her Majeſty would not oppoſe his having Sardinia, which equivalent had been propoſed firſt from hence. This I let him know was the ſum of all he was to expect from the Queen, and your Lordſhip will find the minutes drawn accordingly.

Having on precedent occaſions, as well as this, perceived that Monſieur de Torcy affected to him every expreſſion, in ſuch manner as to engage the Queen, jointly with the King his Maſter, I thought proper very explicitly and in the ſtrongeſt terms I could uſe, to ſay, that the Queen would enter readily into the common guaranty for ſupporting that ſettlement of Europe, which ſhould, by the peace, be made; but that ſhe would on no account whatever be concerned in any ſtipulation to procure this ſettlement; that it would be advantage ſufficient for France, if the conduct of her Majeſty's allies, made it juſt and neceſſary for her to withdraw herſelf out of the war before them, and that afterwards her good offices ſhould be employed as became the common friend of all parties.

I take occaſion frequently to repeat this to the French miniſters, and I believe they will look upon it as the rule which her Majeſty has laid down, and which they ſhall not be able to prevail on her to depart from.

On Saturday, in the evening, I came to Fontainbleau, where an apartment was provided for me, and my reception was particularly

civil. On Sunday, at nine in the morning, I had audience of the King, to whom I preſented her Majeſty's letter. He received me in a very gracious manner, he talked a conſiderable time with me, and the ſubſtance of what he ſaid, as near as I can remember, for his ſpeech was extremely quick, was, that he had ever had the higheſt eſteem for the Queen; that ſhe had proceeded in ſuch a manner as to turn that eſteem into the ſincereſt friendſhip; that he hoped ſhe was ſatisfied he had done every thing on his part, which might facilitate the peace that he was pleaſed to find, we were ſo near concluding; that there were ſome who had uſed all endeavours to obſtruct it, but that, God be praiſed! they would not be long able to do ſo, that God would hinder them from giving the law which they pretended to; that the ſucceſs of his arms * ſhould make no alteration in him, and that he would make good all he had offered.

Fontainbleau, Auguſt 22d, N.S. 1712.

After I had had my audience yeſterday of the King, I returned with Monſieur de Torcy to review the minutes we had taken, and the draught of the convention for the ſuſpenſion of arms which we ſigned in the evening. Your Lordſhip will obſerve that it is dated on Friday laſt, at which time the firſt *brouillon* was prepared; and I thought that every day which the commencement of it was put backward, was ſome degree of advantage to us; the term is of four months, which Monſieur de Torcy deſired, as more likely to have its effect on the Dutch than a ſhorter term, which might have ſuffered them to entertain hopes ſtill of breaking our meaſures, and bringing the Queen into action again. I did not much weigh the force of this argument, though I think it has ſome. What determined me to agree to four

* Upon the ſeparation of the Britiſh forces from thoſe of the allies, the French General defeated the Earl of Albemarle, retook Douay, &c.

months,

months, according to the latitude left in my inſtructions, was, firſt, what I remembered to have been the ſenſe of ſeveral merchants whom I ſpoke with before I left London, who all ſeemed deſirous of the longeſt term, and thought that two months would not encourage many people to venture upon ſome voyages; ſecondly, that a term of two months would as effectually cut off all proſpect of acting by land this campaign as a term of four, and that therefore the ſea-ſervice would be chiefly affected by this ſuſpenſion where we have more to apprehend than to hope.

Monſieur de Torcy had inſerted in the draught theſe words—*les mers qui entourent les Iſles Britanniques*, and cited the treaty of Breda as a precedent. I ſhowed him, that before that treaty, the expreſſion had always run *maribus Brittannicis*, particularly in the treaty with Cromwell, and that the error committed in that of Breda had been rectified in that of Ryſwick. He inſiſted more than I expected on retaining his words, and entered a little into the diſpute of dominion; this made me the more tenacious, and your Lordſhip will find theſe words—*les mers qui entourent les iſles*, razed out, ſo that it ſtands now as it ought to do.

The ſuſpenſion being now ſigned, I ſhall, purſuant to my inſtructions, diſpatch her Majeſty's orders to Sir John Jennings, to Mr. Chetwynd, and to the officer who commands the Queen's troops in Catalonia.

Monſieur de Torcy is likewiſe very earneſt that the Duke of Argyle be diſpatched, judging his preſence neceſſary upon this new turn of affairs for the common intereſt.—I cannot help thinking it is ſo, particularly for her Majeſty's ſervice.

Juſt now the Duke of Orleans* told me, that the King had this morning at his *levée* declared that the ſuſpenſion of arms was ſigned;

* Afterwards Regent of France; famous (ſays Voltaire) for his courage, his wit, and his pleaſures; born for ſocial life, even more than for public buſineſs, and one of the moſt amiable men that ever lived.—He was nephew to Louis 14th.

and Monſieur de Torcy informs me that they intend to-morrow to publiſh it at Paris. I will, therefore, loſe no time in diſpatching this courier, as ſoon as I receive, which I expect every moment, the copy of the act of renunciation, which has been prepared in Spain, and wherein the Spaniards ſeem to have neglected no expreſſion which could add to the ſtrength, and no form which could add to the validity of it. Philip's conſent to the cancelling the entry of 1700, mentioned in the convention for the ſuſpenſion of arms in Flanders, and the inſerting the ſubſtitution of the Duke of Savoy, will be the ſubjects of additional clauſes. I ſhall be extremely concerned if the Queen does not receive this account before the news comes any other way; but I loſe no time, and I hope the meſſenger will loſe none.

The fifty paſſes in blank I have not yet received, but hope to have them time enough to accompany this diſpatch.

The Chevalier has fixed his departure on the 1ſt of next month, N.S.; they propoſe that he ſhall retire to Bar; and they intend to write to the Duke of Lorrain, to aſk of the Emperor and other Princes a ſecurity for his perſon, during his reſidence in that place.

I muſt not conclude this letter without aſking your Lordſhip's pardon, for a piece of falſe news, which I ſent you from Calais, concerning an action at Pont-à-Râche: the ſtory was told us with ſo many circumſtances, that I made no doubt of the truth of it, eſpecially when the Major of this place quoted a letter, which he ſaid he received from his ſon-in-law, who was at that time in the army.

I incloſe the convention for the armiſtice in the Netherlands, which your Lordſhip will have occaſion for; and which, with the act of renunciation, and with the minutes tranſmitted to you, will afford ſufficient materials for my Lord Lexington's inſtructions.

As I intend to leave this place on Wedneſday at fartheſt, it will be proper to loſe no time in diſpatching a letter of credence to Mr. Prior,

to whom your Lordſhip will likewiſe pleaſe as ſoon as poſſible to ſend the Queen's ratification.

This letter is already ſwoln to ſo great a bulk, that I believe your Lordſhip is very willing that I ſhould refer to another opportunity ſuch farther accounts as I have to give of my proceedings.

I am, my Lord, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

SINCE I cloſed my letter, Monſieur de Torcy ſent me word, a courier is arrived from Turin, in his way to England, and deſired to know if I would have him go on, which I did not think proper to hinder. I ſuppoſe this courier is diſpatched to the Count de Maffei, upon the impatience which the Duke of Savoy is under upon not hearing from hence, according to what he was made to expect by his Miniſter's letters, which went by way of Holland ſome time ago.

I am only to obſerve to your Lordſhip, that the ſooner you take an opportunity of ſpeaking to the Count de Maffei the better.

Beſides the papers mentioned in my letter, I ſend your Lordſhip a form of publication of the ſuſpenſion, and a memoir which I received from Monſieur de Torcy, concerning ſome articles of trade. General Stanhope * is juſt arrived here, in his way to Britain.

BOLINGBROKE.

* He had a command in Spain under Stahrenberg, and was made priſoner, with his whole force, at Bahurga. When he arrived in Britain, he ſided with the oppoſition. At the acceſſion of George the Firſt, he came into office; and upon the impeachment of Lord Bolingbroke, was appointed to take poſſeſſion of his papers.

To Mr. Prior.*

DEAR MAT,

Whitehall, 27th Auguſt, 1712.

THE diſpatches of buſineſs will come to you from the other office, and from me you ſhall have now and then a letter of friendſhip.

When I arrived at Court, I did not find the differences between us and France, on the article of North America, and on thoſe in the treaty of commerce, concerning which I ſpoke to you, either conſidered, or put in a way of being conſidered. This afflicted my ſoul; becauſe, though we cannot be ready to ſign till the great article has received its completion in France and Spain, yet the ſooner the terms of our treaty are ſettled the better it muſt be for the Queen's intereſt. A cloud of arguments back this way of reaſoning; but it is ſufficient to reflect, that when the States are once enough humbled to ſubmit, and they are very near reduced to this point already, as the French will be leſs in need of our interpoſition, ſo will they have leſs regard to our inſtances.

I hope my Lords of the Council are determined to have ſuch alternatives, and ſuch expedients found on theſe litigated articles, as may enable our Plenipotentiaries to reſt on ſomething practicable, to render their work the more eaſy and conciſe.—You will be inſtructed to begin; and I own to you I think we muſt depend on Monſieur de Torcy, when we know what we would have, to get it for us.

The blunder committed about the paſſes is very great—becauſe the French cannot import during the war ſeveral ſorts of goods into Britain, *ergo*, do not give to them, nor take to yourſelves, the advan-

* Prior went over with Bolingbroke to France, and was left there, though in what character is hard to determine, probably as Reſident, or Chargé d'Affaires.

tage of ſailing unmoleſted all over the world: whatever impoſitions may be laid, either here or in France, muſt continue, till by a treaty of commerce they are taken off, and the ſubjects of both kingdoms muſt ſubmit to them. But the paſſes do not pretend to diſpenſe with the laws, and ſhould therefore not have been on any account delayed. I hope the courier who brings this diſpatch is loaded with a large number; you cannot make too much haſte in returning as many hither; the want of them occaſions no little clamour.

Since I writ thus far, I find you will be inſtructed to make an end as to the diſputes ſtill remaining between us and France.

There is great induſtry uſed by the Whigs to repreſent the ſuſpenſion of arms as inſignificant, or rather hurtful, to trade; the French, they ſay, will not take our ſhips as French, but as Nieuport and Spaniſh privateers they will. You may remember I ſpoke to Monſieur de Torcy about the caſe of the Elector of Bavaria's giving commiſſions *. I think the convention provides ſufficiently for Spain; however, pray take care to ſet this matter paſt diſpute, and let Monſieur de Torcy know I deſire it of him. If the Elector of Bavaria makes any difficulty, we have ways enough to make him repent it, which I think you would do well to inſinuate.

I am in a prodigious hurry, but cannot conclude without entreating you to make my compliments to every body.

About Drift and your own affairs, you ſhall hear from me at the end of the week.

Adieu, dear Mat,

I am, and ever will be, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

* Probably to privateers from Nieuport, then in his poſſeſſion.

To

To the Earl of Strafford.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Auguſt 27th, 1712.

YOU cannot place your confidence in any man who is more ſincerely, or more affectionately, your ſervant than I am. In this character I will at all times ſerve you to the utmoſt of my power, and in this character you will allow me at all times to ſpeak to you without the leaſt reſerve.

As ſoon as I came to Windſor, at my return from France, I heard that Lord Rivers was dead, and at the ſame time the Duke of Hamilton was to be the Maſter of the Ordnance, and that the Queen had determined how to diſpoſe of the regiment—this came to me through ſo authentic a channel, that there was no room to doubt of the certainty of it; and I therefore judged in your Lordſhip's caſe as I ſhould have done in my own, that it was better not to ſtir in an affair which had already been determined by the Queen.

The employment of Firſt Commiſſioner of the Admiralty brings your Lordſhip into Cabinet, preſerves to you the rank, and to her the advantage of your being ſtill a Miniſter, which could not have been if the other employment had fallen to your ſhare, without making a precedent for enlarging the Cabinet, which her Majeſty had much rather confine than extend.

As to the embaſſy of France, I do not ſee how that could well have been given either to your Lordſhip or to me; the Ambaſſadors to this Court muſt be preſent when the renunciations are made, and by conſequence before the peace is concluded, which ſeems incompatible with the poſt your Lordſhip is in, and has with ſo great reputation filled at Utrecht. As for my own part, unleſs I was turned out of the Secretary's

tary's office, it would be impoſſible to diſpenſe with my abſence from Whitehall.

Since I writ thus far, my Lord Treaſurer tells me that he ſends, in my packet, a letter to your Lordſhip; ſo that I hope you will receive from him more ſatisfaction than I am able to give you, more than I deſire to give you it is impoſſible your Lordſhip ſhould receive from any body.

Before I conclude this letter, give me leave to take notice to you of the impertinence of the Dutch Gazettes as to my journey into France, and particularly of the ſlip which the Duke of Shrewſbury juſt now put into my hands, and which I incloſe; the Queen will, I believe, order ſome public notice to be taken of theſe inſolent lies, and in the mean time your Lordſhip will do me a ſingular favour, and the Queen's ſervice right, if you pleaſe to have the Gazetteer at leaſt reprimanded.

I am, &c.

To the Duke of Ormond.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Auguſt 29th, 1712.

THE feveriſh indiſpoſition which hung about me after my return from France, and which made me go, for a few days, into the country, was the occaſion of my not writing laſt week, as I intended to have done, to your Grace.

The poſitive order contained in my other letter, is not ſent to prevent the admiſſion of other troops beſides her Majeſty's into Ghent and Bruges; the Queen is enough ſatisfied that your Grace will take effectual care to preſerve thoſe cautionary places, which can alone ſecure to her any tolerable conditions with reſpect to the Netherlands, in the

terms of peace. But I confeſs, I thought it could be no ways unneceſſary, to give your Grace a very poſitive and clear order, in an affair which may perhaps make a great deal of noiſe; I believe your Grace is of my mind.

The Queen, my Lord, commands me to let your Grace likewiſe know, that although the body of troops at preſent with you, and the employment of them, ſhould not naturally require one of your rank, yet ſhe judges it for her ſervice, in the preſent conjuncture of affairs, that you continue ſome time longer where you are. When the campaign cloſes, and the conferences open as to the diſpoſition of the Spaniſh Netherlands, your name and figure in Ghent will be neceſſary. Her Majeſty thinks the place you are in not very agreeable to you, but after ſo many proofs of your Grace's preferring her ſervice to every other conſideration, ſhe makes no doubt of your remaining with pleaſure in the ſame ſituation, till you receive orders to come over; before which time, it will be proper to think of the perſon who is to command during your Grace's abſence.

I am, &c.

To Mr. Prior.

DEAR MATT,

Whitehall, Auguſt 29th, 1712.

I AM at laſt involved in the common calamity, and have got the fever upon me, which almoſt every creature in this country has felt. This muſt be my excuſe to Madame de Croiſſy and Monſieur de Torcy, if I do not acknowledge by letter the many civilities which I received, and which I preſerve a moſt grateful ſenſe of.

I am preparing a cargo of Honey-water, Barbadoes-water, and Sack, whereof I ſhall deſire you to take upon you the diſtribution.

Drift

Drift ſhall be haſtened to you, and by him you ſhall have an account of your own affairs.

I wrote to the Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, to inſert in the Treaty with Spain, the ſame acknowledgment of our own ſucceſſion, as in that with France, and it will be proper you ſhould prepare the French miniſters on this head; you will mention it as a point which the Queen takes to be of courſe. When we make ſuch a ſtride for Philip, it is not to be ſuppoſed, that he can pretend to diſpute what his grandfather has ſubmitted to. Adieu, my head-ach delivers you from farther trouble at this time, but woe betide you when I am well.

Ever, dear Matt, faithfully your's,

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Earl of Albemarle.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, September 10th, 1712.

I HAD the honour of your firſt letter ſince my return to Court, and during my journey to France, I received that which you writ me from Cambray. Your Lordſhip may be aſſured that I would have neglected nothing in my power to have ſerved you, had I come to Paris before you obtained the licence from the King*, and I beg you to believe, that whenever you lay your commands upon me, you ſhall find me ready to execute them with the greateſt pleaſure; for though I have not the good fortune to be much known perſonally to your Lordſhip, yet no man has a truer ſenſe of your merit, or value for your character than myſelf.

A feveriſh indiſpoſition, which has been upon me ever ſince my return to this country, hindered me from giving your Lordſhip theſe

* The Earl of Albemarle had been defeated and taken priſoner, at Denain, 24th July, N.S.

aſſurances ſooner, which delay I depend on your goodneſs to excuſe; and am, my Lord, &c.

A Monſieur Marſchalch.

De Whitehall, ce 10me Septembre, 1712.

JE viens, Monſieur, de recevoir la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 9me de ce mois, & que mon frère m'à remiſe.

J'oſe appeler à vous-même, Monſieur, ſi la Reine ne s'eſt pas ſouvenu des intérêts du Roi votre maître, depuis le commencement de la négociation, & ſi, dans le tems qu'elle a reçu de preſque tous ſes alliés un traitement qu'elle ne méritoit aſſurement pas, les articles qui regardent vos intérêts n'étoient à-peu-près ajuſtés.

Je vous ai toujours parlé, je vous ai toujours écrit, avec une ouverture, dont je me ſerois bien gardé de me ſervir, ſi je n'avois ſû que l'intention de la Reine étoit de vivre dans une étroite union avec le Roi votre maître, & d'obtenir pour lui une ſatisfaction entière avant la concluſion de la paix. La Reine a été informée des communications que je vous ai faites, & des aſſurances que je vous ai ſouvent repetées, elle les a approuvés, & c'eſt par cette raiſon qu'elle a été d'autant plus ſurpriſe, quand elle a reçu les nouvelles de la conduite du Prince d'Anhalt, & des ordres de votre Roi*.

La Reine, Monſieur, n'abandonne pas ſes alliés; plût à Dieu qu'elle n'en eût été jamais abandonnée! le plus grand regret que ſa Majeſté ſent, eſt celui de ſe trouver à la veille de ne pouvoir ſe ſervir pour eux que de bons offices & de remontrances.

* Not to agree to the ſuſpenſion of arms, nor obey the orders of the Britiſh General.

Il n'y a rien que je deſire en mon particulier plus ardemment que de mériter la faveur de ſa Majeſté Pruſſienne; je me flatte que le petit Bonet * ne m'aura pas repréſenté d'une autre manière, quoiqu'à vous dire la vérité j'en ſoupçonne quelque choſe, car il me ſemble que je ne ſuis pas trop bien dans l'eſprit de ce Réſident, depuis que je l'ai un jour interrompu, pour l'empêcher de dire certaines choſes, qu'il ne convenoit pas au Secrétaire de la Reine d'entendre.

En tous tems, en tous lieux, & en toutes circonſtances,

Je ſuis, mon cher Monſieur,

Entièrement à vous,

B.

To Mr. Whitworth.

SIR,

Whitehall, September 9th, 1712.

YOUR's of the 9th came to my hands laſt night, as your precedent diſpatches have done in their courſe.

The intention of this private letter is only to acquaint you, by the firſt opportunity, that I believe her Majeſty may take the reſolution of employing you in a place where your talents will be more uſeful to her than they can be in the preſent poſt, and where ſhe can hardly pitch upon a miniſter with too great caution and deliberation.

If I have orders next week to acquaint you that you are recalled from the Czar's Court, it may perhaps be of ſome conveniency to have this previous notice.

I am apt to think, you will be directed to receive your inſtructions here, and the Queen will herſelf be willing to tell you how much ſhe relies upon you, and what a mark of her confidence ſhe gives you.

* Pruſſian Reſident.

You

You will make what uſe you pleaſe of the hint, without giving it to any perſon till you hear again from,

Sir, your's, &c.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Fontainbleau, ce 26me d'Août, 1712.

JE vous ai promis, my Lord, la réponſe du Roi à la Reine, & j'ai l'honneur de vous l'envoyer avec la copie *. Je regrette beaucoup de ne pouvoir vous la remettre moi-même, & je vous aſſure que je ſuis bien fâché de voir notre correſpondence reduite dèſormais aux ſimples lettres. Mais je ſens qu'il ne faut pas que je traite long-tems un pareil article, ainſi permettez-moi de paſſer à celui des lettres que j'ai trouvées à mon retour ici de Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires du Roi à Utrecht.

Comme ils attendoient le ſuccès de votre voyage, leurs raiſonnemens ſur les affaires générales ſont un peu incertains, & l'eſſentiel de la dépêche regarde une querelle particulière de Monſieur Meſnager avec Monſieur de Rechteren †. Je vous envoye, my Lord, le mémoire que j'ai reçu ſur cette affaire.

Meſſieurs

* *Copie de la lettre de la main du Roi à la Reine de la Grande Bretagne; du 26 d'Août, 1712, à Fontainbleau.*

" MADAME MA SŒUR,

" Je n'ai jamais douté de la ſincérité de vos intentions pour avancer la paix, mais vous avez confirmé la juſte opinion que j'en avois, en envoyant auprès de moi le Vicomte de Bolingbroke votre Secrétaire d'Etat. Vous ne pourriez choiſir un miniſtre plus capable d'abréger & d'aplanir les difficultés de négotiation. Je ſuis perſuadé que vous ſerez auſſi contente de ce qu'il a fait, que j'ai été ſatisfait moi-même de ſa conduite, & principalement des aſſurances qu'il m'a données de vos ſentimens pour moi. Quoique je ne doute pas qu'il ne vous rende un compte exact de ceux que je lui ai témoigné pour vous, je veux encore y ajouter, que je n'oublierai rien pour entretenir avec vous une amitié parfaite, & pour vous marquer en toutes occaſions qui je ſuis,

" Madame ma Sœur,

" Votre bon Frère,

(Signé) " LOUIS."

† This diſpute originated with their ſervants.—Count de Rechteren, one of the Dutch Plenipotentiaries, complained that his domeſtics had been inſulted by thoſe of Meſnager; the latter examined

Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires concluent, & je crois que c'eſt avec raiſon, que ceux qui ne veulent pas la paix cherchent à faire naître des incidents pour rompre les conférences d'Utrecht *. Pour moi, la conſéquence que j'en tire, & que vous ne trouverez pas moins vraie, eſt que Monſieur Meſnager n'aime pas la guerre, & que ſon Excellence de Rechteren étoit yvre.

Quoiqu'il en ſoit, je crois, Monſieur, qu'il n'eſt pas tems de rompre les conférences, ni d'en menacer; qu'il faut laiſſer les Hollandois s'endormir dans leur opiniâtreté, & leurs Miniſtres s'enyvrer autant *de la repréſentations* de ſouverains que de *ſantés* †, & pour cet effet, il ne ſera pas mauvais, ce me ſemble, de ſe rendre un peu difficile ſur la ſatisfaction que le Roi eſt en droit de prétendre des diſcours & du procédé de Monſieur de Rechteren. Si vous penſez autrement ayez la bonté de me le faire ſavoir. Vous connoiſſez ma docilité pour vous, & vous m'avez aiſément accoutumé à me rendre ſans peine à vos avis.

Le fripon d'Aſſurini entre aujourd'hui à la Baſtille. Je vous envoye, my Lord, la copie des avis qu'il a donné en Hollande: je les ai reçu de Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires. Il n'avoit point de papiers, s'il en a laiſſé quelques-uns à Paris, je les aurai demain.

Si ſon Excellence Vanderduſſen ‡ ajoute foi à de pareils mémoires, il ne doit pas croire la France épuiſée, quoiqu'à mon ſens elle ne vous eut pas achêté aſſez cher, vous, my Lord, & le Comte d'Oxford.

On m'écrit auſſi d'Utrecht que le Comte de Viglio doit être à Paris. Mais il me ſemble que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de me dire qu'il étoit en Angleterre.

examined his ſervants, and judged that they had not been the aggreſſors, and refuſed to give them up, according to the rules agreed upon for the preſervation of good order. Rechteren's ſervants attacked Meſnager's, treated them roughly, and this produced the quarrel between the maſters. The King of France ordered the conferences to be broken off until the inſult was repaired; and the diſpute was ended by the recal of the Dutch Plenipotentiary.

* Rechteren was much in the intereſt of the Emperor, and againſt a peace. The Emperor had created him a Count; and his brother had lucrative employments in the army, which would ceaſe at the concluding of a peace.

† This alludes to the cuſtom of drinking health.

‡ Penſionary of Gouda, and one of the Dutch Plenipotentiaries.

Permettez-moi de ne vous point parler des regrets que cauſe ici votre départ. Si vous en doutiez, vous auriez mauvaiſe opinion de tous ceux qui ont eu l'honneur de vous voir ; je ne me diſtingue pas, parce que j'eſpère que vous me diſtinguerez toujours comme celui qui eſt avec l'attachement le plus ſincère & le plus véritable, &c.

DE TORCY.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

COMME vous avez approuvé, my Lord, la propoſition que je vous ai faite ſur l'affaire de Monſieur de Rechteren. J'ai rendu conte au Roi de ce que j'avois eu l'honneur de vous en écrire, & de votre réponſe, & les ordres que ſa Majeſté donne à Meſſieurs ſes Plénipotentiaires dans le même ſens.

Elle veut qu'ils demandent, par la voie de Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires d'Angleterre, que les Etats-Généraux déclarent qu'ils déſavouent le procédé de Monſieur de Rechteren. Que les autres Plénipotentiaires d'Holland aillent pour cet effet, tous enſemble, chez un de ceux du Roi, où les deux autres Plénipotentiaires ſe trouveront en même-tems. Que Monſieur de Rechteren, auteur de l'inſulte ſoit révoqué, & qu'il ſoit nommé un autre Plénipotentiaire à ſa place, comme la marque la plus certaine qu'il s'eſt conduit ſans l'aveu & contre les intentions de ſes maîtres.

Je crois qu'ils auront peine à donner une pareille ſatisfaction, quelque juſte qu'elle ſoit ; mais ce ſera matière de négociation pendant qu'on fera mieux ailleurs *.

Le Chevalier † m'écrit qu'il aimeroit mieux aller à Châlons qu'à

* This quarrel afforded a then neceſſary ſuſpenſion of the conferences till every thing was perfectly ſettled between Great Britain and France.

† The Pretender.

Rheims,

Rheims, par ce que les partis ennemis approchent de cette dernière ville, & que les vivres y ſont chers. Je ne vois nulle difficulté à ce changement, le principal étant qu'il ſe mette en marche, & l'une & l'autre ville étant également un lieu de paſſage pour lui, où il ne doit demeurer que juſqu'à ce qu'on ait pourvu à ſa ſureté hors du royaume. Si vous penſez autrement, my Lord, vous aurez la bonté de me le faire ſavoir & vous ſerez ſatisfait. Vous avez en vérité lieu de l'être de tous les ſentimens que vous avez inſpirés ici pour vous.

Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont * vous en rendra compte plus particulièrement qu'il ne le fait encore dans la lettre que j'ai l'honneur de vous envoyer. Je ne lui envie que le plaiſir de vous revoir inceſſamment, & de réparer le peu de tems que nous vous avons poſſédé ici. Je lui laiſſerai le ſoin de vous apprendre quelle vanité les dames que vous avez diſtinguées par vos louanges, ont tirée d'une approbation telle que la vôtre.

Je vous prierai ſeulement de croire que de tous ceux qui ont eu l'honneur de vous voir ici, perſonne n'eſt plus parfaitement que je ſerai toute ma vie,

Monſieur, Votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Fontainbleau, le 29me d'Août, 1712.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

J'APPRENDS, my Lord, votre heureuſe arrivée à Londres, & j'attends avec impatience des nouvelles de la reception que la Reine vous aura faite, pour m'en réjouir avec vous.

J'eſpère que vous aurez achevé de convertir vos infidelles; les nôtres conſervent encore quelques reſtes de leur incrédulité, & fortifiés par Meſſieurs vos Plénipotentiaires, ils ont peine à croire que le plan porté

* Lately appointed ambaſſador of France to the court of Great Britain.

par l'Abbé Gaultier doive être celui de la paix. J'avoue que leurs raiſonnemens, après ce que vous m'avez dit, my Lord, me cauſent peu d'inquiétude. Mais pour votre honneur & pour le mien, je vous ſupplie de faire ſavoir à Meſſieurs vos Négociateurs à Utrecht quand il en ſera tems, que l'intention de la Reine eſt que ce plan ſoit ſuivi: vous m'en avez aſſuré, lorſque je vous ai accordé au nom du Roi, ce qu'elle à demandé pour Monſieur le Duc de Savoye. Ainſi vous ferez aiſément ceſſer les alarmes de vos Plénipotentiaires ſur Tournay, & les raiſonnemens de nos infidelles.

Suivant ce que l'Abbé Gaultier m'écrit de votre part, le Roi dépêche un courier à Madrid & conſeille au Roi d'Eſpagne d'accorder le pardon aux Catalans, & je ne doute pas qu'il ne ſuive un auſſi bon avis. Il ſouhaite d'avoir des paſſeports pour ſix vaiſſeaux Eſpagnols prêts à partir pour les Indes Occidentales. Je vous ſupplie, my Lord, de vouloir bien les envoyer le plutôt qu'il ſera poſſible à Monſieur Prior à qui j'en ai déjà parlé.

Il eſt ſorti de Paris avec aſſez de peine, mais enfin nous le poſſédons ici depuis trois jours. Il étoit ſouhaité non-ſeulement pour ſa bonne compagnie, mais pour avoir le plaiſir de parler de vous avec lui; & je vous aſſure que quoique ſa ſincérité ſoit grande, vous ne devez point être en peine, & que vous ne perdez rien de la bonne opinion que vous nous avez laiſſée.

Madame la Ducheſſe d'Elbeuf compte beaucoup ſur celle que vous avez emportée de Madame ſa nièce, & je crois que c'eſt dans cette confiance qu'elle vous écrit la lettre que j'ai l'honneur de vous envoyer.

Permettez-moi, ſans autre ſecours, de compter entièrement ſur l'honneur de votre amitié, & faites-moi, je vous ſupplie, la juſtice de croire qu'on ne peut être plus parfaitement que je ſuis, Monſieur, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Fontainbleau, le 8me Septembre, 1712.

Le

Le Chevalier eſt véritablement parti hier, & je viens de recevoir une lettre de lui dattée de Meaux; il continue ſon voyage juſqu'à Châlons-ſur-Marne.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce 10me Sept. V.S. 1712.

IL n'eſt pas étrange, Monſieur, qu'en partant de France on y laiſſe ſon cœur derrière ſoi, mais j'ai eu le malheur d'y laiſſer auſſi ma ſanté. En effet, depuis mon retour j'ai eu des accès de fièvre, qui m'ont empêché de travailler à mon ordinaire. Je ſuis allé à la campagne, pour tâcher de me remettre, & il n'y a que quatre jours que je ſuis revenu à la cour: voilà, Monſieur, la raiſon qui m'a privé du plus grand plaiſir que je puiſſe avoir, qui eſt celui de correſpondre avec vous. Je reprends la plume avec joie, & je ne ſais ſi j'en reſſentirois plus en écrivant à Madame de Courcillon, ou à Madame de Parabeze.

Outre l'intérêt particulier que j'ai à entretenir ce commerce de lettre, je crois pouvoir dire que l'intérêt général s'y trouvera; car quoique le Comte de Dartmouth, dans le département duquel eſt la France, doit naturellement communiquer les ordres de la Reine à Monſieur Prior, les lettres pourtant que je vous écrirai avec cette ouverture de cœur que je vous ai promis, & à laquelle je m'attends de votre part, ne manqueront pas de prévenir quelques difficultés, & d'en applanir d'autres.

Jamais ſurpriſe n'a été égale à la mienne quand j'ai vu, par la lettre que vous avez écrite à Monſieur le Grand Tréſorier, & par celle que Monſieur Prior m'a envoyée, que les intentions de la Reine avoient été expliquées d'une manière à vous faire croire, que Monſieur de Lexington tarderoit à ſaluer le Roi & la Reine d'Eſpagne, & à les recon-

noître pour tels, juſqu'à ce que l'article de la réunion fût accompli. Il ne prendra, à la vérité, que dans ce tems-là, ou à la paix, le caractère d'Ambaſſadeur ; mais il ne fera pas plus de difficultés de reconnoître le Roi d'Eſpagne, que ce Prince apparemment n'en fera de conſentir à tout ce que ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne a promis dans ſon nom : les inſtructions de ce Miniſtre ont été parcourues de nouveau par les Seigneurs du Conſeil, & je vous avoue qu'il faut être extrêmement ſubtil, pour pouvoir y trouver quelque choſe d'obſcur ou d'équivoque.

Monſieur Prior vous donnera ſatisfaction ſur cet article, le Comte de Dartmouth ayant eu ordre de lui envoyer les informations néceſſaires.

Vous me marquez, Monſieur, dans votre lettre du 8me Septembre, que les infidelles chez vous conſervent encore quelques reſtes de leur incrédulité. Il en eſt de même chez nous ; & ces gens doivent être bien endurcis dans le péché, qui ne ſe laiſſent pas convertir à la foi par tant de miracles. Mais continuons, Monſieur, à agir ſur un plan uniforme, & à conſerver de part & d'autre cette bonne foi qui a été juſques ici inviolablement gardée, & nous viendrons à la fin à bout de ces diſciples de St. Thomas.

Votre honneur & le mien, qui me ſont également chers, ſeront auſſi également en ſureté pendant que nous nous tiendrons à ce que j'ai eu la permiſſion de vous dire des intentions de la Reine, ſur le plan général de la paix. Vous vous ſouviendrez, Monſieur, que je vous ai repréſenté que la conduite de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne, à l'egard des intérêts de ſes alliés, étoit en quelque façon déterminée par la leur, que les meſures violentes qu'ils ont priſes pour traverſer la négociation, avoient eu l'effet de mettre la Reine en état de faire la paix ſans attendre leur concurrence ; que dans ce cas ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne, leur déclareroit qu'elle avoit ſigné le traité avec la France & l'Eſpagne, qu'elle leur propoſeroit le plan apporté par l'Abbé Gaultier, comme celui ſur lequel ils pouvoient faire la paix, & qu'elle leur

feroit

feroit ſavoir que dorénavant elle ne pourroit agir que par ſes bons offices, comme l'amie commune de toutes les parties.

Vous vous ſouviendrez auſſi, Monſieur, que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous dire, qu'en cas que les Hollandois particulièrement, ou autres alliés, priſſent le parti d'entrer, devant la concluſion de la paix de la Reine dans le concert avec ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne, nous aurions plus de meſures à garder, la compaſſion du peuple chez nous ſeroit émue, & les Miniſtres de la Reine obligés à faire des pas, que dans l'autre cas ils refuſeroient abſolument de faire.

Voilà ce que j'ai avancé en France par ordre de ſa Majeſté ce que je répète aujourd'hui par le même ordre, & ce que vous trouverez, Monſieur, ponctuellement ſuivi.

Les Plénipotentiaires du Roi paroiſſent exiger de nous quelque choſe de plus, quand ils inſiſtent que les Miniſtres de la Reine propoſent la tenue d'une conférence, dans laquelle on débutera, par une propoſition qui paroît en quelque façon contraire à ce que la Reine à dit dans ſa harangue, touchant la barrière des Etats-Généraux. Il ne s'agit pas dans la diſpute ſurvenue entre vos Plénipotentiaires & les nôtres, de ſavoir ſi Tournay ſera reſtituée au Roi ou non; car pour obtenir cette place il n'eſt pas néceſſaire que vous commenciez en faiſant cette déclaration ſpécifique. Mais il s'agit de ſavoir ſi la Reine doit déclarer formellement, & dès à préſent, que Tournay ſera rendu à la France; car ce ſeroit déclarer cela, que de conſentir à l'expoſition que Meſſieurs vos Miniſtres veulent donner à cet article de la harangue. Pour ne pas trop groſſir une lettre qui a déjà la mine de devenir un peu ennuieuſe, je me remettrai à ce que Monſieur Prior aura l'honneur de vous expoſer ſur ce point, & je me contenterai de dire que comme le tempérament n'eſt pas difficile à trouver, j'eſpère que nous éviterons toutes choſes qui peuvent cauſer de diſpute entre les Miniſtres de la Grande Bretagne & de la France.

Le

Le Comte de Dartmouth, envoye douze paſſeports pour les vaiſſeaux prêts à partir pour les Indes Occidentales, que le Roi d'Eſpagne demande, & Monſieur Prior vous les remettra d'abord.

La Reine n'a nulle objection au changement qui s'eſt fait dans la route du Chevalier; l'eſſentiel eſt qu'on ne perde point de tems à lui procurer la ſureté requiſe, afin qu'il puiſſe ſortir hors du royaume.

Je me flatte que la Ducheſſe d'Elbeuf ſera contente de ce que j'ai fait en vertu des ordres dont elle m'a chargé & je vous prie de vouloir bien lui faire tenir l'incluſe.

Je ſuis perſuadé que vous me faites la juſtice de croire que je n'ai rien négligé de tout ce que je pouvois faire pour le ſervice du Duc de St. Pierre *. Il ſuffit qu'il vous appartienne pour que je ſois dévoué à ſes intérêts, & la Reine a été très aiſe d'avoir cette occaſion de vous montrer ſon eſtime & ſon amitié en donnant à ſes Plénipotentiaires des ordres très précis de ſeconder ceux de France dans toutes les inſtances qu'ils doivent faire pour procurer à Monſieur le Duc la ſatisfaction qu'il demande avec tant de juſtice.

Excuſez, s'il vous plaît, toutes les fautes d'une lettre écrite fort à la hâte, & que je n'ai pas eu le tems de rendre plus courte, & ſoyez aſſuré que je ſuis, & que je ſerai toute ma vie, avec une affection, permettez moi de me ſervir de l'expreſſion, très ardente, & une eſtime très parfaite,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

B.

* It appears by a memoir of the Duke, that he had lent to the late King of Spain 800,000 livres, for the defence of the Milaneſe, and for which ſum that duchy was mortgaged to him. The King gave up to him in payment of the mortgage the principality of Sabionette, with a promiſe that in caſe it was taken from him, he ſhould receive an equivalent. In 1707, the principality was taken from him, and he now urges his claim *upon the Emperor as mortgagee of the Duchy*, and requires payment to be a ſtipulation in the treaty of peace, but offers to accept the ſovereignty of Porto Longone, or the Marquiſate of Vareſe or Final, as an equivalent.

From

From Mr. Prior.*

My Lord,

Paris, the { 4th of September, / 24th of Auguſt, } 1712.

I SEND this by Utrecht, though before your Lordſhip ſhall have received it, I hope to have your meſſenger from England, with your orders and directions; him will I diſpatch back again with a more particular account of what I now am or may be charged with; this in all caſes being only to tell your Lordſhip that Dagley juſt now arrived here (10, morning) with the ratification of the ſuſpenſion, and Lord Dartmouth's obſervations upon it, upon which I go preſently to Fontainbleau, having left ſuch orders behind that the meſſenger, whom I expect about Wedneſday (this being Sunday) may come thither to me; in the mean time, what I have to ſay to your Lordſhip is, that I have viſited the Duc d'Aumont, and, as I ought, given him the beſt advices and inſtructions for his voyage; he ſays, he depends mightily upon your Lordſhip's correſpondence, as to his houſe and other affairs in England; and I hope by the courier whom I expect, to be inſtructed in that point, as in many others. I reſerve myſelf to write all I have to ſay by the way of England immediately, but by every way I write I muſt not omit that I parted with you with more pangs than is proper or poſſible for me to tell you. I have performed all your commands here, and expect with pleaſure thoſe I am to perform, being ever,

My Lord, &c.

M. Prior.

Be pleaſed to own to Lord Dartmouth the receipt of this letter, in caſe this reaches your Lordſhip before I write to him *en droiture*.

* When Bolingbroke went to France, he took with him Prior, and his Under-ſecretary, Hare; the former he left at Paris as a Plenipotentiary on the part of Great Britain.

From Mr. Prior.

My Lord,

Fontainbleau, { Auguſt 29th, / September 9th, } 1712.

(The Meſſenger does not part till to-morrow morning.)

I HEAR by the expreſs which brings me the letters of the 23rd Auguſt—3rd September, that you were ſafely arrived in England; I return the ſame meſſenger, with my anſwer to ſuch orders as I have received from Lord Dartmouth; upon which, for want of time, and Drift * to copy my letters, I beg your Lordſhip to be referred, and deſire your favourable explanation, ſince in the whole I have (as I always ſhall) followed your direction. As to the term for the ceſſation to take place in the ſeas beyond the line, if there be any difficulty, your Lordſhip will ſee it taken off by the article which Monſieur de Torcy has drawn up, the King approved, and which your Lordſhip having ſigned (as you will find it dated while you were here) and ratified, may be ſigned and ratified here in like manner. N.B. You return the inſtrument in which Torcy ſigns firſt. I, upon the receipt of your inſtrument, ſending back theirs to you, the ſign, I think, they call the ſign-manuel will be ſufficient to both, ſo Mr. Torcy ſays. I ſend to Lord Dartmouth the ratification of the ceſſation, they received ours with great ſatisfaction: I ſent Dagley yeſterday with the packet to Lord Peterborough at Turin.

Mr. Torcy this morning told me, he hears he is gone to Vienna: *Quod felix fauſtumque ſit.*—I do not queſtion but he will take Bender † in his way home ‡.

* Prior's Secretary.

† Charles XII, King of Sweden, was then at Bender.

‡ This journey of the Earl to Bender is meant ironically, alluding to his zeal and activity, which certainly bordered upon enthuſiaſm.

The young gentleman* parted on Wedneſday from Liori; he is gone to Châlon (ſur la Maine) about an equal diſtance from Paris as Rheims; is very melancholy, but much reſigned. The Elector of Bavaria, they ſay, is gone; but he has a little w—— upon the bank of the river, between this and Paris, *pour tuer le tems.*

As I have told you that I have writ the ſerious buſineſs to Lord Dartmouth, and that I expect every hour my cargo from England, with your commands, give me leave to tell you, I have performed thoſe which you have already given me very faithfully. Madame Croiſſy ſent me the great bag of money which you left, by her intendant, having given a ſtrict prohibition to her ſervants not to take it. I made very ſlight of it, as of a *bagatelle* that ſhe ought never to have heard of; that it did no way belong to me, if it did I would ſend it to the poor of the pariſh, or to ſome community which would make more noiſe than would pleaſe Monſieur de Torcy: at laſt he took it back; Madame Croiſſy chid me at my next viſit in a friendly manner, and all is right. As is likewiſe your bounty to the comedians, in which there were likewiſe obſtacles, the Duc de Tremes having paid the *loge* †; but thoſe too were overcome; and the Cyd and Climene‡ thank you for your generoſity.

I have a thouſand compliments to make you; every night I ſup with M. de Torcy, *en famille*; Madame drinks two healths I have taught her, *à Harré & à Robin* §; Madame Parabart is very proud of her good fortune, and the whole Court is pleaſed that upon that point Madame Courcillon's abſolute power is retrenched. Madame de Feriolle's memoir I muſt not forget; ſhe has a ſiſter that is run away from a nunnery, and now pleading the cauſes of her renunciation.

* The Pretender.

† Bolingbroke was received in France as the Miniſter of peace. His reception at Court was highly flattering; and upon entering the theatre the audience roſe up, to mark their reſpect for his character, and their attachment to the object of his miſſion.

‡ Two characters in Corneille's excellent tragedy of the Cyd.

§ Bolingbroke and Oxford.

I do not, for I need not, ſay any thing to you about my own affairs, for by this time *jacta eſt alea*; and I expect the courier, who will give me new occaſion of teſtifying to your Lordſhip, that I am, &c.

M. Prior.

Pray remember the Duke d'Aumont's commiſſions to you, and ſend me the article and ratification back as ſoon as you can; I do not explain farther to Lord Dartmouth, concerning *les mers Britanniques*, than that I think that point is upon ſuch a foot, as not to be conteſted hereafter; for I told you the method by which that was obtained, and in a letter which may be read in public, I would not ſeem *à faire le négociateur*; beſides, it is not proper that it ſhould be known, except to yourſelf and Lord Treaſurer, that it was gained by a pretty impudent artifice.

Monſieur des Marais *, told me this morning, that they were examining our articles of commerce, and in two or three days, he ſhould be able to talk with me on that head.

From Mr. Prior.

My dear Lord,

Fontainbleau, September 12, 1712.

I HAVE yours of the 27 Auguſt, O.S. and I have at the ſame time, one of the ſame date, from Lord Dartmouth; I beg your Lordſhip will conſent to be referred to my letter to my Lord upon that ſubject, and I wiſh it were in my power to procure a more agreeable anſwer. In the fulneſs of my heart, I cannot forbear ſaying to *you*,

* Comptroller-general of the Finances.

that

that while I expected your orders, and thought (as I had reaſon to think) that this negociation, as it was confirmed by you here, ought to be finiſhed by the ſame hand; I receive other directions, and for ought I know, or can perceive, am to go to ſea again, while, as Monſieur de Torcy (if you will take the credit of an enemy) expreſſes it, we were in the port.

You tell me the diſpatches will come from the other office, and that now and then, I ſhall have a letter of friendſhip from you; if ſo, my Lord, pray go to Bucklebury, and write to me at Cambridge. I own to you, I do not know what all this means, though I have endeavoured to explain it to the Duke de Beauvilliers, and Monſieur de Marais, and Monſieur de Torcy; therefore, my dear Lord Bolingbroke, let me have orders conſonant to what is already done, and ſuch as may contribute effectually to a ſpeedy peace; intereſt yourſelf in this matter, remembering that every man can deſtroy, but very few can build. As for my own part, I vow to God, I care not; but I would have theſe people ſee, that we act unanimouſly, and as becomes a nation; that our orders and our councils are of a piece. They tell me, *that my Lord Lexington will acknowledge him (Philip) King of Spain, and the Indies, with an et cætera, which, I ſuppoſe, are all the titles he either values or deſires.* I cite you the very words of the letter from Lord Dartmouth, 27th Auguſt, and deſire you to give me, as well your own as my Lord Treaſurer's ſentiments about it; did an *et cætera* ever accompany any thing but the laſt letter, in the four-and-twenty? Pray ſet us right, and let me have orders practicable, at the ſame time that I expect power to execute them. I have endeavoured to hinder the blunders committed in the paſſes, by explaining my deſires in relation to thoſe which will be given. *Dii meliora!* But inſtead of any thing that may enlarge our commerce, or give theſe people reaſon to think we are free, or would be ſo, as to matters of trade, I am only furniſhed with No. I. and

No. II. copies of the Attorney and Solicitor Generals' reports, that it is not in the Queen's power to open the trade.

Now you have heard all my grievances, pray help me, and diſpatch your orders, the papers, and Drift; I think my caſe is this: I have neither powers, commiſſion, title, inſtructions, appointments, or Secretary.

I never ſaw any thing ſo dejected as Monſieur de Torcy is, that the paſſports are not ſigned by Harré; neither he, nor I, nor any man elſe, underſtands why we are to go into another channel now; in ſhort, it is the grand dance in the rehearſal, and we are all out.

PRIVATE.

Hæc cum dixiſſet
Quærit calendis ponere.

2-13 September.

I ſupped laſt night, *pro more* with the family, and we were all merry, except Monſieur de Torcy, who is really a good deal concerned, and, faith! with reaſon; he has more enemies than I thought, and has reaſon to apprehend any ſhock in our affairs.

Juſt as I have made up my paquets, and, *pour faire la bonne bouche*, was going to tell you, that I am ſincerely your ſervant; Monſieur de Torcy has ſent for me, and by the King's order, let me take a copy of Philip's letter to his Majeſty, by which all is agreed as we or he deſire. His Majeſty's will is, that I ſhould take a copy of it, being able to ſay, that I ſaw the original, and that I ſhould transfer that copy immediately to the Queen, which I accordingly do, directing it to my Lord Treaſurer; I repeat again to you the hundred difficulties which will arrive upon my uncertain correſpondence, and as I have writ on this ſubject to Lord Treaſurer, I beg it may be redreſſed; ſo does Monſieur de Torcy.

To Mr. Prior.

DEAR MATT,

Whitehall, Auguſt 29, 1712.

I AM at laſt involved in the common calamity, and have got the fever upon me, which almoſt every creature in this country has felt.

This muſt be my excuſe to Madame de Croiſly, and to Monſieur de Torcy, if I do not acknowledge by letter the many civilities which I received, and which I preſerve a moſt grateful ſenſe of.

Drift ſhall be haſtened to you, and by him you ſhall have an account of your own affairs.

I write to the Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, to inſert in the treaty with Spain, the ſame acknowledgement of our ſucceſſion, as in that with France; and it will be proper you ſhould prepare the French Miniſters on this head; you will mention it as a point which the Queen takes to be of courſe. When we make ſuch a ſtride for Philip, it is not to be ſuppoſed, that he can pretend to diſpute what his grandfather has ſubmitted to. Adieu, my head-ache delivers you from farther trouble at this time, but woe betide you when I am well.

Ever, dear Matt,

Faithfully yours,

BOLINGBROKE.

To Mr. Prior.

DEAR MATT,

Whitehall, September 10th, 1712.

I WAS equally ſurprized and vexed to find, that by the uncouth way of explaining the Queen's ſenſe, you had been led to imagine, that it was intended my Lord Lexington ſhould make any difficulty of ſeeing and complimenting the King of Spain, as ſuch. We ſpent about three hours in penning minutes yeſterday upon this head, which was long ago adjuſted. I ſuppoſe the inſtructions will be at laſt clear, but my Lord Lexington having been preſent at the debate, his underſtanding of the matter will make amends for any dark ambiguous articles which may be in them.

Dartmouth is to communicate the Queen's orders herein to you, that ſo you may be able to ſatisfy the French Miniſters, and they to prepare the Spaniſh Miniſters. However, I will venture to tell you in few words what I underſtand is to be the meaſure of Lord Lexington's conduct: as ſoon as he arrives at Madrid, he will notify his arrival to the Secretary of State; he will, when he ſees this Miniſter, let him know that the Queen has ſent him thither to compliment the King, in her name; to be a witneſs of the ſeveral renunciations, and other acts requiſite to complete the execution of the article agreed upon, as neceſſary to prevent the union of the two monarchies; that after this, he is to proceed to ſettle ſuch matters of commerce, and other affairs, as are for the mutual intereſt of both nations, and to take the character of ambaſſador upon him. My Lord will at the ſame time produce his credentials, and give the Secretary a copy of them, if he deſires. In this conference he will farther take notice of the ſeveral ceſſions made by the King of France, in behalf of his grand-

ſon

ſon to the Queen, and will ſpeak of them as points which he looks upon as concluded. He will likewiſe give a memorial of them in writing, ſigned by himſelf, to the Secretary, and expect from him an aſſent in the King's name, in writing alſo, and ſigned by the Secretary.

This ſeems natural, civil, and unexceptionable, but any other ſcheme is abſurd and inconſiſtent with all the reſt of our proceedings.

For God's ſake, dear Matt, hide the nakedneſs of thy country, and give the beſt turn thy fertile brain will furniſh thee with, to the blunders of thy countrymen, who are not much better politicians than the French are poets.

I have writ in great haſte a prodigious long letter to Monſieur de Torcy, which I believe he will ſhow you; but for fear he ſhould not, I incloſe in this an extract of part of it, which relates to a matter that has given Lord Treaſurer and your humble ſervant no ſmall trouble in cabinet. The copy of the Plenipotentiaries' diſpatch of the 2d of September, which I likewiſe ſend you, will ſhow you how a diſpute now on foot at Utrecht, began; you will obſerve that their Lordſhips are very warm in it, and I can aſſure you we have thoſe here who are not a jot cooler.

The ſolution of this difficulty muſt come from you, it is a matter of management and appearance, more than ſubſtance, and the Court of France muſt be leſs politic than I think them at any time, and more unreaſonable than I think them at this time, not to come into a temperament upon a matter unneceſſarily ſtarted. You muſt begin by making Monſieur de Torcy not only underſtand, but own he underſtands the propoſition, which I am ſure you may remember I more than once repeated to him, when I was in France, upon various occaſions, and which I have again ſtated as clearly as I am able. The Queen can never do any thing which ſhall look like a direct reſtraint

on her allies from demanding what they judge neceſſary; but as long as they act the part which they now do, ſhe can very juſtly be paſſive and neuter as to their intereſts; and if her peace be made before theirs, which ſhe will not delay for them, ſhe can, with the ſame juſtice, leave them to make their own bargain. This is advantage enough for France, and ſuch a one, fairly ſpeaking, as a year ago, they would have given more than Tournay, to have been ſure of.

They muſt not, therefore, preſs us to go farther than this, nor to do any thing which may ſeem contradictory to what the Queen delivered from the throne; that ſpeech they have always owned as the plan they ſubmitted to, and it varies but little from that brought hither by Gaultier.

In a word, the uſe which the French will make of the unaccountable obſtinacy of the Dutch and the other allies, may, in ſeveral reſpects, and particularly, for ought I know, in this inſtance of Tournay, give them an opportunity of ſaving and gaining more than they could have hoped for; and the Queen may, in the preſent circumſtances, contribute paſſively to this end, but actively ſhe never can in any circumſtances.

I think, in my own opinion, and I believe I ſpeak the Queen's upon this occaſion, that it were better the French ſhould, in the courſe of the treaty, declare, that whatever they intended to have given the Dutch, when the Queen ſpoke from the throne, their conduct has been ſuch, and the ſituation of affairs ſo altered, that the King is reſolved to have Tournay reſtored to him; I ſay, I believe this were better than to expect that we ſhould aſſent to an expoſition of the Queen's words, by which her Majeſty would yield the town up.

Let the conferences begin as ſoon as they will, I dare ſay buſineſs will not be very ſpeedily diſpatched in them; in the mean time, we ſhall go on to ripen every thing for a concluſion between us and Savoy,

voy, and France and Spain, and this is the true point of view which the French ought to have before their eyes.

You will be very ſhortly particularly and fully inſtructed to ſettle the article of North America, and thoſe points of commerce ſtill undetermined; that done, the Miniſters may ſign at Utrecht, as ſoon as they can hear from Lord Lexington.

My Lord Dartmouth writes to you concerning a clamour which our merchants have raiſed, as if under pretence of not carrying to Liſbon or Barcelona *des proviſions de guerre ou de bouche*; they ſhall be debarred from their uſual traffic of corn and fiſh, which at thoſe places, there are great demands for in time of peace as well as war, and without any conſideration of the armies. The difficulty as to Liſbon ſeems to be removed by the Portugueſe ſubmitting to come into the ſuſpenſion of arms; and he propoſes to you an expedient as to Barcelona, but in truth that war muſt be ended of courſe now, ſince the Queen ſupports it no longer, and the Dutch are recalling their fleet from the Straits. The Duke of Argyle is going immediately now away, and the moment he comes to Minorca, he draws to him every thing belonging to the Queen out of Catalonia. The Imperial troops muſt, in my opinion, that moment ſubmit, and compound for tranſportation, and when the war is at an end, I think there can be no pretence to quarrel with us, for carrying our goods to the people of the country.

It is now three o'clock in the morning; I have been hard at work all day, and am not yet enough recovered to bear much fatigue; excuſe, therefore, the confuſedneſs of this long ſcrawl, which is only from Harry to Matt, and not from the Secretary to the Miniſter.

Your credentials of Miniſter Plenipotentiary will be ſent you, together with your full powers, by the next boat, and before Duke Hamilton* goes, I will move to have you removed to Utrecht, which

* Appointed Ambaſſador to the Court of France.

there will be a natural handle for, as ſoon as you ſhall have ſettled the points of commerce, and in doing that have given the laſt ſtroke to the finiſhing the treaty with France.

Make my compliments to Madam Feriol, and let her know that I have, I hope, put her affair into a way of being finiſhed to her ſatisfaction. I have ſpoke very earneſtly to Maffei, and have uſed the proper arguments to him.

Adieu. My pen is ready to drop out of my hand. Believe that no man loves you better, or is more faithfully your ſervant, than that ſleepy fellow

BOLINGBROKE.

I had almoſt forgot to tell you that the Queen is pleaſed to diſcharge the Marquis de Tallard's parole, which you may aſſure him, with my compliments, of, and give him any ſignification neceſſary in form.

To Mr. Pulteney.

SIR,

Whitehall, September 9th, 1712.

THIS private letter is writ on the ſubject concerning which you deſire her Majeſty's orders in yours of the 9th inſtant, N.S. and theſe the Queen thought it more proper to convey to you by this way, than by the office diſpatch.

The Queen, you eaſily imagine, hears with great concern of the ſteps which the King of Denmark has taken in favour of his new miſtreſs; and as her Majeſty cannot interpoſe in matters of this kind, ſo ſhe will not do any thing which may ſeem to countenance what ſhe ſo much, and for ſo many reaſons diſapproves.

You

You are, therefore, to conduct yourſelf as to pay what is due to the title and rank of the Ducheſs of Sleſwick*, without making your court, or appearing particular in your application to her.

I am, Sir, &c.

To the Lords Plenipotentiaries.

My Lords,

Whitehall, September 17th, 1712.

I OBSERVE ſo many ways that the French are deſirous to conſtrue what I ſaid, whilſt I was in France, by the Queen's order, in another ſenſe than it was meant, or will bear, and by conſequence to carry the Queen farther in her engagements to them than ſhe intends to go, that I think proper to acquaint your Lordſhips, by this private letter, with the propoſition which I reſted upon, and which as her Majeſty had before directed, ſo ſhe has ſince approved.

When Monſieur de Torcy preſſed me to give him aſſurances that, in conſideration of the conceſſions of the King, as well in favour of the Duke of Savoy as in other reſpects, the Queen would on her part aſſiſt the King to recover Tournay by the peace, my anſwer was, that the Queen's conduct in this inſtance, and in many others with regard to the intereſts of her allies, muſt be determined in good meaſure by theirs, I mean by that of the allies. That if the Dutch continued refractory, and that, by conſequence, the Queen concluded her peace without their concurrence, for which ſhe would no longer wait, ſhe would then think herſelf obliged to declare that ſhe had done ſo; ſhe would lay before them the plan of France, as the utmoſt which had been offered, and would let them know, that for the future ſhe could employ nothing more than her good offices, as the common

* The Miſtreſs alluded to.

friend of all parties; but I added, and very often repeated, if the Dutch ſhould come to their ſenſes before the concluſion of the peace with the Queen and France and Spain, and ſhould implore her Majeſty's aſſiſtance, and ſubmit to her meaſures, the ſcene would then be altered—the Queen's compaſſion, the national pity would be moved; we ſhould have more meaſures to keep, and ſhould be obliged to act another part.

This principle of action her Majeſty ſtill adheres to; and though it be of too nice a nature to be the ſubject of an office diſpatch, yet I thought your Lordſhips ought not to be ignorant of it; and whenever the French Miniſters affirm that we have given up Tournay, this communication will furniſh your Lordſhip with an anſwer.

I am, my Lords, &c.

I have, ſince my return from France, refreſhed Monſieur de Torcy's memory, and ſtated this matter to him as I now do to your Lordſhips.

To Sir Thomas Hanmer.

SIR,

Whitehall, September 17th, 1712.

I HAVE the honour of your letter of the 17th, N.S. from Ghent, and have loſt no time in putting your commands in execution. The paſs, in the form you deſired it, was this day given to your ſteward, who came to the office, by your order, for it.

Your journey to France can certainly give no offence to any one here, and ſure I am it will give great ſatisfaction to many there. I ſhall ſend to Prior the good news, that he may ſoon have the honour of ſeeing you; and, if you approve of it, will write the ſame to ſome of my friends of that Court, who will be proud to be reckoned yours.

I agree

I agree entirely with you, and I think it is the opinion of every man who ſerves the Queen, that we are now at the favourable criſis, and that no time ought to be loſt in concluding our great work.

My Lord Lexington is gone to Spain; the Cortes are appointed to meet the very beginning of the next month; and I think the forms of the ſeveral acts neceſſary to complete the execution of the article for preventing the union of the two monarchies, are ſo well ſettled and underſtood, that in very few weeks we may receive here and at Utrecht the exemplifications of them; in the mean while, all other matters will be ripened, and I ſhall hope that two months would ſuffice to draw us clearly out of a ruinous war and intricate negociation.

I ſhall add nothing to this letter, but my hearty wiſhes for your health and proſperity, and my ſincere aſſurances that

I am, Sir, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

My Lord,

Whitehall, September 17th, O.S. 1712.

I HAVE juſt time to tell you, my dear Lord, that I did, by the Queen's command, let Monſieur de Torcy know, that her Majeſty would pay Queen Mary* her jointure. I put him out of hopes of any conſideration for arrears. Whether this Princeſs has been attainted or no, I cannot on my memory at preſent ſay; but this was, you know,

* The Houſe of Commons, in 1701, paſſed a bill for the attainder of the Pretender; when it came to the Lords, upon amendment, they included Queen Mary of Modena, acting as regent. This was excepted againſt by the Commons; it was propoſed that Mary's attainder ſhould conſtitute a ſeparate bill, this was aſſented to, and the Pretender's attainder paſſed. The Lords agreed to the bill for attainting the Queen, but is was neglected in the Commons. Her jointure, 50,000 l. as ſettled at the peace of Ryſwick, was provided for by Parliament.

promiſed

promiſed by the late King at the peace of Ryſwick, and is certainly juſt; our miſtreſs thinks it ſo much ſo, that ſhe is willing to pay it.

I wonder that any Miniſter of Holland ſhould have the face to deny that the States interpoſed with the Queen about our domeſtic affairs, and particularly about the diſſolution of the laſt Parliament. They did it by their reſolution of the 3d of July, 1710, which Vryberge at an audience, read to the Queen. This was reſented, even in thoſe days, though not in the manner it ought to have been; and my Lord Townſhend was ordered to take notice of it as a very extraordinary ſtep, and what the Queen hoped the States would not venture upon a ſecond time. The truth is, what had been ſaid by Mr. Boyle * to their Miniſter, gave but too much encouragement to people as forward to be meddling.

When there are ſeven Commiſſioners of the Admiralty, the ſalaries are of 1000l. a year, but the Firſt Commiſſioner has uſually had, by particular warrant, an increaſe to his. Adieu, my dear Lord, for ever inviolably,

Your faithful

B.

To Mr. Prior.

September 19th.

THE Queen's indiſpoſition has hindered the doing almoſt of any buſineſs this week, but, I thank God, ſhe is now perfectly recovered. She had ſome ſlight feveriſh impreſſion; however ſlight it was, you eaſily imagine our concern. Indeed, there is hardly an inſtance of any one life to be found in ſtory ſo important as her Majeſty's.

* Then Secretary of State.

Lord

Lord Treaſurer promiſes that Hiberian Gilligan and Britiſh Drift, ſhall be diſpatched on Monday, and I dare ſay, he intends it. You will find incloſed ſuch advices as we firſt received, and which nothing has come ſince to contradict, of the invaſion of our Leeward Iſlands by the French. This, dear Matt, proves a very untoward *contretems*. It gives a theme to the Whigs, and ſerves to awaken paſſions which were almoſt lulled aſleep. We expected that Caſſart's ſquadron might be gone to the coaſt of Brazil, or to Surinam, but we never imagined that our Colonies would have been attacked by him, at a time when we were knitting the bands of friendſhip between the two nations, with all poſſible induſtry; could this ill opinion of our new friends have entered into our heads, I do aſſure you he ſhould have been accompanied by a fleet of the Queen's, which would have kept him in reſpect.

In the letter which I intend to write to Monſieur de Torcy when Drift goes, this point will be mentioned, and I am ſure we ought to avail ourſelves of it.

Compare this conduct with that of the Queen; the moment that I read her letter from Monſieur de Torcy, by which it appeared that the King of France would oblige his grandſon to accept the alternative of quitting one of the two monarchies, her orders were diſpatched to the Duke of Ormond, to engage in neither ſiege nor battle, and ſhe prevented the French even from making the demand. I will not ſay that this order ſaved their army from being beat, but I think in my conſcience it did. In a word, we depended ſo much upon the good underſtanding which we thought eſtabliſhed, and we were ſo earneſt to prevent any thing which might break in upon it, that we not only avoided to fortify our ſquadrons abroad, as we might have done, but we alſo neglected to put in execution ſome deſigns which would have annoyed both French and Spaniards, perhaps more than any that have been effected during the courſe of this war.

I ſuppoſe Lord Dartmouth has told you that two frigates are ordered to Toulon, to attend the Duke of Argyle from thence to Minorca. I believe you will think proper to take ſome notice of this to Meſſieurs de Torcy and Pontchartrain *, and prevent any *méſentendu.*

The letters you forwarded to me, with yours of the 20th, were not very material, but your care was equally obliging.

Adieu, make my compliments every where, and believe me entirely and faithfully yours,

BOLINGBROKE.

To Mr. Hill†.

DEAR SIR,

Whitehall, September 19th, 1712.

I MADE my compliments to you ſome days ago upon your recovery, and do again aſſure you, that no friend you have could feel a more ſenſible pain, whilſt we thought you in danger, nor ſenſible pleaſure when we heard you was out of it.

As to your journey hither, you will know, before this can reach you, that her Majeſty gives you leave to come. The eldeſt officer muſt command, I ſuppoſe, during your abſence, and you will, no doubt, take care to ſettle every thing for the good order of that place, with the French Intendant, and other officers, before your departure.

I am ſorry that what relates to the eſtabliſhment of the garriſon, is not entirely finiſhed. It is no fault of mine, but on the contrary, perhaps, I have been too impertinently ſolicitous about it; but when you are here that matter will quickly receive its deciſion.

Dear John, for ever your affectionate, &c.

* Miniſter of the Marine. † Then commanding officer at Dunkirk.

A Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont.

De Whitehall, ce 26me, Septembre, 1712, V.S.

IL n'y a, Monſieur, que votre arrivée à notre cour, qui puiſſe me donner un plus grand plaiſir que celui que j'ai ſenti en recevant la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire, le 27me du mois paſſé.

Les circonſtances du tems, les commiſſions dont j'étois chargées, la politeſſe de la nation, & ſurtout la bonté du Roi, contribuoient à me procurer les honneurs que j'ai reçu, & que je n'oublierai jamais, pendant le court ſéjour que j'ai fait en France. Mais, Monſieur, de trouver que vous voulez bien conſerver pour moi des ſentimens d'amitié, & que même à cette diſtance vous me comblez de vos faveurs, c'eſt, je vous l'avoue, tout ce qui me pouvoit arriver de plus flatteur.

Monſieur de Torcy me mande que vous partirez dans peu; je vous attends avec impatience, & j'oſe vous promettre que ſi vous ne trouvez pas chez nous l'habilité des miniſtres, ni la magnificence de la Cour de France, vous trouverez, au moins, beaucoup de droiture dans les négociations, & vous goûterez des plaiſirs, qui, ſans faire un grand bruit, ne laiſſent pas d'être fort ſenſibles.

Je ſuis, mon cher Duc, plus que perſonne du monde,

Votre, &c.

B.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Verſailles, le 27me Septembre, 1712.

LA nouvelle de votre maladie, Monſieur, inquiétoit beaucoup tous ceux à qui vous avez permis ici de ſe croire du nombre de vos amis, & comme je me flatte, peut-être plus que perſonne, j'étois auſſi plus alarmé, & plus affligé, de ne point recevoir de vos lettres. On peut laiſſer ſon cœur loin de ſoi, & conſerver ſa ſanté. La vôtre eſt néceſſaire au public & à l'honneur de ceux qui combattent contre les infidelles; tant de raiſons vous perſuaderoient, Monſieur, de l'intérêt ſenſible que je prends à ſa conſervation, quand même vous pourriez croire qu'ayant eu l'honneur de vous connoître, je puiſſe être indifférent à tout ce qui vous regarde.

Je le ſerois au bon ſuccès de l'affaire que nous traitons, ſi je n'avois craint le changement de la correſpondance ordinaire. Je ne cachois pas ma peine à Monſieur Prior, lorſqu'il m'apprit, il y a déjà quelques jours, qu'il recevroit déſormais les ordres de la Reine par d'autres que par vous. Les meilleures intentions changent beaucoup ſuivant la manière dont elles ſont expliquées, & quelque reſpect que j'ai pour le choix de ſa Majeſté Britannique, pardonnez, Monſieur, ſi je vous dis franchement, qu'ayant goûté le plaiſir de traiter avec vous, on doit me pardonner de vous préférer à d'autres Miniſtres. Vous me raſſurez en m'apprenant que notre commerce ne ſera point interrompu, & je compte abſolument ſur cette ouverture de cœur, dont il me ſemble que je répondrois autant ſur l'expérience que j'en ai faite, que ſur la promeſſe que vous m'en renouvellez. Véritablement, je n'en aurois pas été garant envers les Dames ſi vous euſſiez fait ici un plus long ſéjour. Comme il a ſuffit pour vous faire voir ce que je penſe, c'eſt

à vous

à vous, Monſieur, que je me rapporte pour juger de la ſincérité & de l'extrême deſir que j'ai d'aplanir toutes les difficultés lorſqu'il n'aura pas été poſſible de les prévenir.

Il eſt vrai que j'en appréhendois une très conſidérable du côté de l'Eſpagne, lorſque Monſieur Prior m'expliqua, pendant les derniers jours du ſéjour du Roi à Fontainbleau, les ordres donnés à Monſieur de Lexington. Je ne puis croire que les intentions de la Reine euſſent été mal expliquées, mais comme j'étois perſuadé que ſa Majeſté Britannique changeroit une réſolution qui me paroiſſoit oppoſée aux démarches qu'elle a faites juſqu'à préſent, je pris heureuſement le parti de ne pas écrire un mot en Eſpagne de l'incident que les lettres écrites à Monſieur Prior me donnoient lieu de craindre ; ainſi, Monſieur, cette mauvaiſe interprétation n'aura produit aucun inconvénient, & le mal eſt léger puiſqu'il ſe réduit à l'inquiétude qu'elle m'a cauſé.

Les ordres que la Reine donne à Monſieur le Comte de Lexington *, ſont conformes à ce que vous me fait l'honneur de me dire. Il ſera bien reçu en Eſpagne, & le Roi Catholique n'oublie rien pour avancer l'accompliſſement de tout ce que le Roi a promis en ſon nom. Ainſi, Monſieur, j'eſpère qu'il n'y aura point de tems perdu. Je l'appréhendois lorſque Monſieur Prior m'a fait part des obſervations faites à Oxford†, ſur le projet de la renonciation. Il me ſembloit que c'étoit vouloir dire en différents termes ce que le Roi d'Eſpagne déclare bien clairement dans l'acte dont je vous ai remis la copie. Il y avoit même une énumération de nos Princes du ſang, qu'il étoit d'une grande conſéquence pour la France de ne pas admettre. J'en avois parlé à Monſieur Prior, mais Monſieur de Lexington étant parti, je juge, Monſieur, que ces obſervations n'auront pas été inſérées dans ſon inſtruction, & je m'en réjouis, car il eſt à croire que l'original du Roi d'Eſpagne eſt

* This is a miſtake of Torcy, he was only Baron Lexington.

† This relates to the conſultation of Civilians at Oxford, reſpecting the inheritance of the French and Spaniſh monarchies.

préſentement en chemin, que le Roi le recevra dans peu de jours, & je vous avoue que je regretterois fort les momens que l'on perdroit pour le renvoyer, & pour en demander un autre qui ne contiendroit pas de clauſes plus fortes & plus nettes que celle qu'il renferme.

L'Abbé Gaultier ne me pardonneroit pas ces délais inutiles, car il preſſe vivement de finir, & peu s'en faut qu'il ne m'impute le retardement de la négociation. S'il faloit me juſtifier, je vous ferois voir, & vous conviendriez aiſément, Monſieur, que le Roi a fait toute la diligence qui dépendoit de lui, & qu'elle a été ſecondée par le Roi d'Eſpagne, au delà même de ce qu'on pouvoit en eſpérer. Mais je crois que l'Abbé eſt animé par ſon zèle, & peut-être par la crainte de quitter Londres, & de venir encore ici avant l'entière concluſion des affaires.

Vous me rappelez, mot à mot, le projet que vous m'avez communiqué, Monſieur, comme la règle que nous aurions à ſuivre pour les conduire à leur perfection. Si je vous ai ſupplié de me le répéter, n'en accuſez pas ma mémoire qui a été fidelle, prenez-vous en ſeulement à ceux qui doutent, & dont l'inquiétude ébranleroit quelquefois la foi des plus fermes ; une avance indiſcrette & artificieuſe de la part de la Hollande rappelle la première incrédulité, alors il faut des armes telles que le ſont celles que vous me fourniſſez pour réduire dans les termes de votre projet les démarches qui ſont à faire.

C'eſt pour ſuivre ce même plan que le Roi ne preſſe pas le renouvellement des conférences d'Utrecht, & que ſa Majeſté a demandé une ſatisfaction un peu forte de cet ivrogne de Rechteren. Il me ſemble que c'eſt auſſi le moyen de fortifier indirectement les Hollandois dans leur endurciſſement, & d'empêcher qu'ils n'entrent, avant la concluſion d'une paix particulière, dans les meſures que le Roi & la Reine ont concertées. Ainſi vos peuple s'animent d'avantage contre l'opiniâtreté d'une république orgueilleuſe, qui n'obſerve plus même le droit de gens à l'égard des Miniſtres qui traitent la paix chez elle, & de cette

manière

manière nous avançons tous les jours vers le but que nous nous ſommes propoſés.

Comme il paroît cependant, ſuivant ce que Monſieur Prior m'a dit depuis l'arrivée du dernier courier, que la Reine croit qu'il eſt à propos de renouer les conférences d'Utrecht, & comme vous marquez, Monſieur, par votre lettre, qu'il eſt bon de trouver un tempérament pour terminer toute diſpute entre les Plénipotentiaires du Roi & ceux de la Grande Bretagne; ſa Majeſté conſent d'ordonner à ſes Miniſtres à Utrecht de faire à ceux de la Reine la déclaration dont je vous envoye la copie. Je crois que c'eſt le meilleur tempérament qu'il y ait à prendre, pour garder, auſſi long-tems qu'il ſera néceſſaire, le ſecret des intentions de la Reine; & en même-tems pour aſſurer que la paix ſera traitée ſur le plan que le Roi envoya à Londres, au mois d'Avril dernier.

Si ſa Majeſté Britannique, croit à propos de renouer les conférences d'Utrecht, il eſt néceſſaire qu'elle informe Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de ſes intentions, ſur la déclaration que je vous envoye. Ceux du Roi agiront de concert avec eux ſur ce ſujet. Mais avant que de faire aucune démarche, il faut néceſſairement que les Etats-Généraux donnent ſatisfaction ſur l'affaire de Rechteren.

Le Roi a toujours compté, qu'ils auroient peine de la donner auſſi forte que ſa Majeſté l'a demandée; il ne convient pas cependant qu'elle s'en déſiſte, parce que certainement les ennemis de la paix en tireroient avantage. Mais le Roi donnera volontiers à la conſideration de la Reine, une partie de la réparation que ſa Majeſté avoit demandée, étant bien perſuadée, que ſa Majeſté Britannique, aura les égards qu'il convient, à l'offenſe & au marque du reſpect qu'une République comme celle d'Hollande doit au Roi.

J'attends, Monſieur, par le premier courier, les douze paſſeports que vous m'annoncez pour les vaiſſeaux que le Roi d'Eſpagne veut envoyer aux Indes, & je vous en remercie par avance.

Ce ſeroit allonger ma lettre, & vous ennuyer inutilement, que de vous écrire ſur tous les points que nous avons traité, Monſieur Prior & moi, & dont il vous rendra compte ; je lui ai communiqué un avis que j'ai reçu, au ſujet du ſéjour que la Chevalier doit faire hors du royaume ; vous ſavez que c'eſt par le moyen de la Reine qu'il doit recevoir les ſuretés qu'il attend, elles lui ſont abſolument néceſſaires, car il eſt certain que les partis ennemis ſont tous les jours aux portes de la ville où il doit aller.

J'ai auſſi averti Monſieur Prior des offres ſecrettes qui ſont faites à l'Electeur de Bavière. Vous ſavez, Monſieur, à quel point le Roi s'intéreſſe aux avantages de ce Prince, & je ſuis perſuadé que vous avez rendu compte à la Reine de la manière dont le Roi vous en parla encore, lorſque vous prites congé de ſa Majeſté ; l'affliction de l'Electeur a été grande lorſqu'il n'a plus eu lieu de douter de la diſpoſition de la Sicile, & ſes inſtances, depuis votre départ, en ont été plus vives. Comme il eſpère toujours que la Reine ne lui ſera pas contraire, qu'il croit même que ſa Majeſté ſera bien aiſe de contribuer à ſes avantages, il ſouhaite qu'elle ſoit informée de ce qu'il demande pour le dédommager, autant que les conjonctures préſentes le peuvent permettre, de la ceſſion du Haut Palantinat, & de celle de ſon droit ſur la partie la plus conſidérable des Pays-Bas. Je vous envoye Monſieur, le projet qu'il en a dreſſé.

J'ai envoyé à Madame la Ducheſſe d'Elbeuf, la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'adreſſer pour elle. Comme elle eſt malade, aſſez conſidérablement, je ne compte pas d'avoir de réponſe avant le départ du courier.

Il me reſte, Monſieur, à vous remercier des marques ſenſibles que vous avez bien voulu me donner de votre amitié, en parlant à la Reine des intérêts de Monſieur le Duc de St. Pierre ; il doit tout attendre d'une protection auſſi puiſſante, & pour moi, Monſieur, je connois que je

tiens

tiens de vous les marques de bonté dont vous m'aſſurez de la part de ſa Majeſté Britannique, & que je voudrois pouvoir mériter par le profond reſpect que j'ai pour elle.

Vous m'apprenez à faire des excuſes d'une auſſi longue lettre, & quoique ce ſoit avec plus de raiſon de ma part que de la vôtre, je vous aſſure que je me ſuis peu apperçu de ce défaut en vous écrivant, & que le tems m'a paſſé ſi vîte que je crois encore ma lettre courte. Je ſouhaiterois qu'elle vous le parût auſſi, & je vous ſupplie de lire ſans impatience les proteſtations très ſincères que je vous fais d'être avec un attachement très véritable & très conſtant, Monſieur, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont preſſe vivement les ouvriers de Paris, pour être plutôt en état de vous aller voir. C'eſt le ſeul avantage que je lui envie.

Je me ſervirai une autrefois de la permiſſion que vous m'avez donné de vous écrire d'une autre main. Je ne ſais ſi la Reine a parlé au Baron de Forſtner au ſujet du ſéjour du Chevalier à Bar ?

A Monſieur de Torcy.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 26me Septembre, V.S. 1712.

LE dernier courier ayant été obligé de reſter quelques jours à Calais par des vents contraires je n'ai reçu que hier l'honneur de votre lettre du 27me, N.S.

La Reine eſt au Château de Winſore, ainſi je ne la pourrai voir que demain, de ſorte qu'il faut que je renvoye à la ſemaine prochaine ce que j'aurai l'honneur de vous dire par ſon ordre, mais en attendant je n'ai pas voulu manquer de profiter de la poſte de ce ſoir, pous vous

remercier de toutes vos bontés, & pour vous renouveller les aſſuannces d'une amitié inviolable & eternelle.

Les inſtructions de Monſieur de Lexington, ſont certainement conformes à ce que je vous ai dit, & les intentions de ſa Majeſté n'ont jamais varié ſur cet article. Quoique l'Eſpagne, auſſi-bien que la France, ſoient dans le département de l'autre ſecrétaire, j'ai pourtant, à la réquiſition de ce Miniſtre avant ſon départ, parcouru avec lui tous les ordres qu'il avoit reçu, & je crois pouvoir vous aſſurer qu'il étoit en quittant la cour au fait de toutes choſes, & dans des ſentimens tels que vous l'auriez ſouhaité. Il eſt vrai que les obſervations faites par les juriſconſultes ont été miſes à la marge du projet de l'acte de renonciation qu'on lui avoit remis, & celle ſur laquelle Monſieur Lexington doit principalement appuyer, eſt l'énumeration des Princes du ſang de France.

Je voudrois de tout mon coeur, qu'on n'eut jamais conſulté avec ces avocats chicaneurs, & pour autant que je ſuis capable de juger, les clauſes qui ont été dreſſées en Eſpagne ſont auſſi fortes & auſſi nettes que celles que ces Meſſieurs ſouhaitent d'inſérer. Mais je vous avoue en même-tems que je ne comprends pas trop les objections contre cette énumeration, comme je les trouve expliquées dans la dépêche de Monſieur Prior au Comte de Dartmouth. Il eſt certain que dans un acte qui fait le fondement de la paix, & qui doit conſerver la tranquillité de l'Europe, dans les ſiècles à venir, il eſt beaucoup plus pardonnable d'admettre des expreſſions inutiles, que de négliger le moindre mot qui puiſſe ou eclaircir ou confirmer.

Je me réjouis de ce que les armes que je vous ai fournis vous ayent été utiles ; je m'étonne ſeulement que vous en ayez eu beſoin.

Il me ſemble que Meſſieurs vos infidelles doivent avoir bien mauvaiſe grâce, quand ils s'oppoſent à un Miniſtre qui ſeul, & ſans leur participation,

pation, a conduit les choſes à un point qu'ils n'oſoient eſpérer il y a quelque tems.

Je croyois les paſſeports que le Roi d'Eſpagne a demandés pour les vaiſſeaux qui vont aux Indes, déjà à Madrid, mais on vient de me dire, que le Sieur Gilligan, Commiſſaire que la Reine envoye en Eſpagne pour les affaires de commerce, en a été chargé ; il partira au premier jour, & j'eſpère que ce délai ne ſera d'aucun préjudice.

Puiſque je parle des Indes, vous voulez bien, Monſieur, que je vous diſe naïvement, que l'invaſion de nos colonies par un eſcadre de vos vaiſſeaux eſt un contretems qui fait plus de mal que le butin que vous en rapporterez ne vous fera de bien.

On a déjà parlé au Miniſtre de Lorraine touchant la ſureté du Chevalier, & il en a écrit à ſon maître. Je ne manquerai pas Dimanche prochaine de lui demander quelle réponſe il a eu.

Par le Secrétaire de Monſieur Prior, j'aurai l'honneur de vous écrire Lundi ou Mardi prochaine.

Je ſuis, Monſieur, votre, &c.

B.

From Mr. Prior.

My Lord,

Verſailles, 17-28th September, 1712.

GIVE me leave to thank you from my ſoul for your explicit, friendly, long letter, of the 10th, O.S. as Monſieur de Torcy does for that which accompanied it; I was ſo well directed by the lights you held out, that we have avoided two ſhoals, upon which, without any figure, we were very likely to have run: that of alterations and additions to be made to the inſtrument of renunciation, and

Dr. Henchman's* opinion, upon which Monſieur de Torcy and I were 'fending and proving, repliquing and rejoining, four days, is, God be praiſed! all over, by Lord Lexington's going into Spain, and this Court being entirely ſatisfied in the inſtructions which he will receive, and the good ſenſe with which he will execute them: in the main, you and I know, that theſe people mean the renunciation ſhould be as ſtrong as we can aſk it; and every man knows that our advantage conſiſts in the quick execution of it. Your letter upon this head ſaved me from the politic gripings which are leſs tolerable than thoſe I had at the ſame time from a *cholera morbus*, which I hope is going off; as to the other point, that of our being at a full ſtop at Utrecht, you will ſee I preſume, by Monſieur de Torcy's letter, that I comprehended, and made him comprehend that I did ſo, the ground upon which her Majeſty would ſtand, and the utmoſt that France ought to expect from her, in relation to the barrier for the Dutch, or any other part of her ſpeech. I repeated to him, that I was left here to defend this principle, and to inculcate this doctrine, which you had planted, and that he muſt help us in this point, or any other of the like nature that may ariſe: upon the whole, he drew up the ſubſtance of what he ſends you, and having ſhowed it to the King, ſends it as an inſtruction to the French Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, which I hope has effectually brought us off, and ſet the conferences there on foot again, in the manner you deſired.

The referring the affair of Rechteren, and the ſatisfaction which he thereupon ſhall have, to the Queen's arbitrage, was a point with which I very eaſily cloſed; ſince beſides that it gives her Majeſty a ſingular honour, it furniſhes her likewiſe with an opportunity of reſtraining or forwarding the conferences as ſhe pleaſes.

* The Civilian.

I refer

I refer you to my letter to Lord Dartmouth, for all mercantile and ſhip news, deſiring you to adjuſt with him, and ſend me your reſolution upon the points which Monſieur Ponchartrain has writ to Monſieur de Torcy, and I have tranſmitted to England.

The Dutch moſt certainly are ſearching a peace more than ever, by the means of the Elector of Bavaria, to whom they would have the Low Countries aſſigned; upon a ſuppoſition that, in that caſe, he would underſtand the word *barrière* in another ſenſe than they think the Emperor will underſtand it, and leave them in the full and eternal poſſeſſion of the towns where they now are; by which means, you ſee, they will expound dependencies, chatelenies, and reunions, as well as other people. The two things viſible in theſe *tentatives* of our good allies are, their reſtleſs deſire of extending their *frontière*, and their utter hatred to the neighbourhood of their old maſters of Auſtria. The uſe (you will ſee by what Monſieur de Torcy ſends you) that Bavaria makes of this is, that, telling it to France that they may tranſmit it to England, that Prince may make himſelf as much merit as he can to engage her Majeſty to help him in the enſuing treaty of peace.

As to the Chevalier, he expects that we ſhould furniſh him with paſſports from the Emperor; though, by the way, not one thing that young man can do, nor one word he can ſay, but will be told by Lorrain* to the Emperor, and from that Court will be communicated to the Whigs in England, to which pray have an eye.

I am ſure Monſieur de Torcy preſſes you to reſume your correſpondence with us; it is little for me to ſay, after him, how much the ſervice muſt ſuffer, and how many incidents muſt needs ariſe from its being either put into a new channel, or divided into two; but—*Ich dien.*

* Meaning the Duke.

I hope that beaſt Drift is on his journey; what detains him, I rather wonder than gueſs, ſince, by your kindneſs to me, the powers and inſtructions which he brings muſt have been ready ſome days. I do not pretend to thank you for your great friendſhip to me any other ways, than by aſſuring you I will always ſtudy to deſerve it. Adieu. ——ἔρρωσο.

I am, eternally, your Lordſhip's, &c.

M. Prior.

I hope Madame Calandrine is ſafely arrived at London; I need not ſay that I ſerved her as far as I could, and erected myſelf before my time into a Miniſter, gave her paſſports and orders accordingly, which you muſt pardon.

I juſt now hear that Monſieur Voiſin* has given the King an account that our garriſon at Dunkirk is very ſickly, occaſioned by our ſoldiers eating cucumbers, and other ſuch traſh.

I hear nothing from Utrecht, but from my friends here; pray let them write to me. Monſieur de Torcy has given du Queſne's and Wyn's caſe to Monſieur Pontchartrain, to whom you know I cannot yet addreſs myſelf; and as ſoon as I can I will ſolicit them. Having heard nothing from him, I judge that the part of your letter to him which takes it for granted that *marchands* may reciprocally, during the ſuſpenſion, go and come freely in and out of any part of Britain or France, is mutually agreed on.

I have ſent paſſports 480.

* War-ſecretary.

From

From Mr. Prior.

MY DEAR LORD.

Paris, September 20th, N.S. 1712.

I FORWARD a letter from Mr. Chetwynd, at Genoa, to Lord Dartmouth; I ſend him likewiſe the copy of one writ by Monſieur Pontchartrain, to Monſieur de Torcy, the ſubſtance of which I have already writ to Lord Dartmouth at large by the laſt expreſs, and daily expect his orders upon the whole. But all things from England being uncertain, I venture this by way of Dunkirk, and hope it will come ſafe. What I trouble you with, is, you ſee, a parcel of letters which have been brought hither, and were left during my writing from Fontainbleau; they are, I believe, of no great worth, and might have ſtaid on this ſide for ever; indeed they had like to have done ſo, for your friend Matt has, for fifty hours paſt, had a *trouſſe-galante dans toutes les formes*; and I was of opinion that I was going *ad Palimedem, ad Ulyſſem, & Heroas.* I have changed that opinion theſe twelve hours paſt, and I hope to live with Lord Treaſurer and Lord Bolingbroke, who are e'en as good company. Why do not I hear from you all?

I am ſo weak I can hardly hold my pen, to tell you, that I am ever, my dear Lord,

Your's, &c.

M. PRIOR.

Your's of the 29th deſerves a more particular acknowledgment than my preſent indiſpoſition permits me to give you. I hope you are perfectly recovered, which, I aſſure you, will be as grateful news as I can poſſibly hear. Adieu, my Lord. I am ill, and in great pain, but I think the worſt is paſt.

From

From Mr. Prior.

My Lord,

Verſailles, September 19-30th, 1712.

THE incloſed I received to-day, from Monſieur de Torcy; by it your Lordſhip will ſee (what I am very glad of) that our Commander-in-chief received your Lordſhip's orders writ from hence, ſo that our duplicates are ſuperfluous, and the Duke of Argyle will find matters on that ſide adjuſted as they ſhould be.

I ſend this by the way of Dunkirk. I expect every day to hear from you, and as I have writ a great deal to you, two days ſince by Hayward, I believe I ſhall have as much more to write to you, as ſoon as I ſhall have received an expreſs and Drift from England, both which I daily expect.

The King goes to Ramboüillet to the Count de Thouloufe*, on Monday, ſtays there all the next week. I ſtay here till the Court goes, that I may loſe no time in imparting to Monſieur de Torcy what I may from you.

I am ever, with great friendſhip,

Your Lordſhip's, &c.

M. Prior.

The King told me yeſterday at his dinner, that he was glad to ſee me ſo well recovered. Can I die? and after all is it not *dans le grand?*

* Legitimated ſon of Louis XIV, by Madame de Monteſpan, and Grand Admiral of France.

To Mr. Prior.

DEAR MATT,

Whitehall, September 26th, O.S. 1712.

BOTH your letters of the 17th, with the paquet incloſed, came to my hands yeſterday, and I once more heartily congratulate your recovery.

I thought it was proper to keep Drift three days, that he might take your powers, and other neceſſary papers along with him; but I confeſs I do not ſee what occaſion there was to keep him three weeks, that he might take Gilligan along with him, who is able to find his way by himſelf. Thus, however, the caſe ſtands, and I cannot help it. I believe they will ſet forward next week without fail.

I perceive by your letter to Dartmouth, and by Monſieur de Torcy's to me, that the ſingle point to which the French object very ſtrongly, in the amendments prepared by Dr. Henchman, to the act of Philip's renunciation, is the enumeration of the Princes of the blood in France. For my own part, I have all along deſpiſed the wiſdom of theſe civilians, and thought their caution chicane, but others have not been of my mind. However, I own my weakneſs, and confeſs that I cannot find any force in the French reaſoning deduced in your diſpatch to my brother Secretary.

Firſt, becauſe Philip is not in the execution of this act to be looked upon abſtractedly as King of Spain, but is to be conſidered as a Prince of the Houſe of France, and very nearly allied to the crown of that kingdom.

Secondly, becauſe when Philip excludes himſelf and his children (if this excluſion ſignifies any thing) the Duke of Berry and his ſons, and the Duke of Orleans and his ſons, have in them that very right which

was.

was in him, each in his turn, after the Dauphin, and therefore no new right is ſo much as pretended to be created; but that which really ſubſiſts is particularly ſpecified.

Thirdly, becauſe in the agreement for a ſuſpenſion of arms in Flanders, this devolution to the Dukes of Berry and Orleans is in the ſame manner mentioned; and, which is ſtill more appoſite, it is, in the Queen's ſpeech, ſpoke of in the ſame manner, and the French have been parties to one, and never objected to the other.

Fourthly, becauſe Monſieur de Torcy agrees that Philip ſhall ſay that he conſents *qu'on regarde ce droit comme paſſé & tranſmis à celui qui ſe pourra trouver plus proche en degré immédiat après le Roi, &c.*

Now who are *en degré immédiat après le Roi* but the Dauphin and the two Dukes above mentioned; and why may they not be ſpecifically named, as well as included in general words? I wiſh, with all my heart, the amendment had never been propoſed; but on the other hand, France muſt take care not to create a ſuſpicion that they deſign to evade this renunciation, as they have done former acts of the ſame ſort.

I think the inſtructions ſent to the French Miniſters at Utrecht, will get over the rub which lay in our way, and you do extremely right to keep the French to the principle eſtabliſhed.

By the working of the Dutch, I am apt to think we ſhall ſoon hear them ſpeak another language. As to their treaty with Bavaria, it is an intelligence of a very extraordinary nature, but not unlikely. I do not ſee how any meaſure which they may take of this ſort, can hurt the Queen; on the contrary, I think I ſee how ſhe may improve it to her advantage: but you know we can ſpeak no language but this, that all the Low Countries are to go to the Emperor, ſubject to the barrier of Holland.

Pray give the incloſed to Madame de Feriol, with many compliments. Aſſure Madame de Torcy, that ſhe wrongs an honeſt heart, and that Harry is incapable of forgetting her, or his obligations to her.

The garriſon and town of Dunkirk have been extreme ſickly, but, with Monſieur de Voiſin's leave, it is not to be attributed to the traſh which our ſoldiers eat, who live at leaſt as well as theirs; the poor devils found the diſtemper, and did not bring it there.

Monſieur de Pontchartrain is ſatisfied upon his queries, and I tranſmit to you two caſes, which I complain of to him.

Adieu, ever your faithful,

BOLINGBROKE.

Drift ſhall bring you another epiſtle.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, September 26, O.S. 1712.

THE letters of the 4th of October, N.S. came this morning to our hands, and although I cannot take upon me to give an anſwer to the diſpatches of buſineſs, till I have laid them before the Queen, yet I muſt not let the poſt of to-night go away without carrying your Lordſhip my ſincere acknowledgments, and hearty thanks for your private letter of the ſame date.

I know very well how impoſſible it is to act an honeſt and reſolute part, eſpecially in ſuch times and ſuch circumſtances as ours, without creating multitudes of enemies. This I am therefore prepared for, and I proteſt to you, that the approbation of one man like yourſelf,

gives me more inward ſatisfaction, than the clamour of a whole faction gives me diſturbance.

I own my ignorance naturally; either I never knew, or it has ſlipt out of my memory, that King James's widow was attainted.

Your affairs ſhall be taken all due care of, and my own concerns will never ſit ſo near my heart, as thoſe of ſo honourable and kind a friend.

We received letters yeſterday from Verſailles; mine from Monſieur de Torcy, are of the 27th September, N.S. wherein he agrees to the manner in which I ſtated the Queen's meaſures with reſpect to her allies; ſays, he had not forgot that I told literally the ſame thing at Fontainbleau, but that he was deſirous to have it ſtated again by me, that he might arm himſelf againſt ſuch of his own court as are capricious and diſtruſtful.

This point being ſettled, I think, my Lord, our road is ſtraight and clear before us. If the Dutch do come heartily into the meaſures of peace, and fix reaſonable terms to conclude upon, we muſt join with them, as France is prepared to expect. If they continue either obſtinate or uncertain, we muſt proceed and finiſh our work without ſtaying for their concurrence, as France has been promiſed. But, my Lord, above all things, take care that they be explicit and particular. Nothing is more deſirable, than that our peace and theirs, ſhould be made at the ſame time; but nothing is more fatal than that they ſhould affect to repent, without doing it in earneſt, ſpin out the negociation, and hurt us more by an appearance of ſubmiſſion, than they can do by open and direct oppoſition.

The Elector of Bavaria pretends to have had overtures from the States; and you will find, by my other diſpatch, ſtill hopes to keep part of the Spaniſh Netherlands, notwithſtanding the poſitive refuſal which, in the Queen's name, I gave to that demand when I was in France.

Your

Your Lordſhip will pleaſe to communicate theſe particulars to my Lord Privy Seal, and to believe me, with much reſpect,

Yours, &c.

To Lord Lexington.

My Lord,

Windſor Caſtle, September 30, 1712.

I CANNOT neglect the opportunity, which the departure of Mr. Gilligan gives me, of writing to your Lordſhip, as well to recommend myſelf to the continuance of your favour, as this gentlemen to your protection. He is ſo perfect a maſter of the Spaniſh trade, in all its parts, and has ſo many habitudes, eſpecially among the mercantile people in that country, that I hope his endeavours will extremely contribute to the ſettling of our intereſts in Spain and the Weſt Indies, on a much better foot than they have ever been.

I trouble your Lordſhip on no head of buſineſs, imagining that this would only be to repeat what you will be informed of from the other office.

By our laſt accounts from France, we hear that they expected Philip's renunciation might be actually on the road. This appears like great forwardneſs to conclude, and I hope the ſame ſpirit will ſhow itſelf in every other part of the negociation. Your Lordſhip will be glad to hear, as I take it for granted you have by this time, from Lord Dartmouth, that if this act ſhould have been diſpatched, you are not to inſiſt to have the whole overhauled again, which would loſe a conſiderable time, for the ſake of that amendment of the Civilians, wherein the Princes of the Bourbon line are ſpecifically enumerated, nor for any other of the marginal notes. If the act is not paſſed, I ſuppoſe

you will find no great difficulty in prevailing to add any thing which may ſeem to ſtrengthen a renunciation which it is ſo much the intereſt of Spain to have made good.

I have nothing farther to add, but my hearty wiſhes for your Lordſhip's health, pleaſure, and ſucceſs, and my earneſt deſire that you would honour me with your commands whenever you think I can be of uſe to you, and my ſincere aſſurances that

I am, your Lordſhip's, &c.

To Mr. Prior.

SIR,

Windſor-Caſtle, 29th September, O.S. 1712.

I WRIT to you at the cloſe of laſt week not very fully inſtructed, but this diſpatch will be of more conſequence, and I believe, before you come to the end of it, you will obſerve that we are now at the criſis of our negociation, and that the future peace of Europe does very much depend on the meaſures which the Queen ſhall think fit to take.

When, in order to keep my word with you I take upon me to explain any thing in which I apprehend there may be any miſtake, you muſt forgive me if I am too particular in ſpeaking to ſome points, which you may, perhaps, receive in a very clear light from the other office.

A clerk of the council was ordered to attend laſt night at the Cabinet, with a declaration drawn by the Attorney-general, and intended to have been publiſhed for the releaſe of all French and Spaniſh priſoners, whether taken at ſea or land; but upon comparing this draught with that which was ſent from France, the Queen found the latter to be confined to ſoldiers only, and to ſuch a degree that it even ſpecifies the particular ſorts.

* This

This made it impoſſible for her Majeſty to declare a general releaſe of all French priſoners whatſoever; at the ſame time, ſhe was unwilling to make a diſtinction in ſo formal a manner, between the ſea and land priſoners, wherein the principal care would have appeared to be taken of the latter, beſides, her Majeſty looked upon it to be as much the intereſt of France as hers, that the priſon doors ſhould be reciprocally ſet open, and all priſoners, except hoſtages, be at once reſtored to their liberty.

Theſe conſiderations determined her Majeſty not to publiſh any declaration at all.

But, in the mean time, her orders have been given for the releaſe of all French, and will be extended to Spaniards too, with the reſerve abovementioned. She makes no doubt but that the French will rectify what ſeems to have been only a miſtake, and in that confidence ſhe takes this meaſure, and depends on you to have the matter ſet right.

I came from London on Saturday, and the Duke of Argyle, as I ſuppoſe, ſet out yeſterday; you muſt without doubt have already heard of his Grace's coming towards you, and will ſhortly ſee him. I take it that the chief, if not the only buſineſs, which he has at the Court of France, is, to concert with the King's miniſters the manner in which the Imperial troops are to evacuate Catalonia; and I believe upon this occaſion, it is neceſſary that I ſhould ſay ſomething to you of the Queen's views and apprehenſions, and of ſome ſteps which ſhe has made relating to this affair.

Her Majeſty's deſign is to put an end to the war in that country, and as ſhe withdraws herſelf from it, ſo ſhe will, according to her promiſes, aſſiſt in retranſporting the German troops from thence. Her apprehenſions are of two ſorts: firſt, ſhe is afraid (though that fear is a kinder thing than the conduct of the Imperial Court deſerves at her hands) that they may *opiniâtre* a miſtaken ſcheme of politics to

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their ruin. They have, you know, been all this year pouring troops into Spain, fondly imagining to make it, by keeping an army there, worth the while of Philip and his grandfather, to give them ſome equivalent for withdrawing themſelves out of it. Whereas we have all along judged that as long as the Germans diſagreed with her Majeſty, ſuch a project was very chimerical, that they would meet with the common fate of bullies, and be kicked out of doors; in ſhort, that the moment the Queen ceaſed to act herſelf, and to ſupport them, the ſending troops thither, was only multiplying of hoſtages, and that inſtead of gaining any thing for abandoning the country, they muſt be glad at laſt to compound for liberty to quit it with ſafety.

Another apprehenſion the Queen has, is the uſe which the Emperor may make of this body of troops when they come from Catalonia. He is already enough inclined to quarrel with the Duke of Savoy, and the wind which he has got of the intended diſpoſition of Sicily to that Prince, will be apt to blow the coals. How practicable it may be for him to make any attempt on that kingdom, I am not able to ſay; but there is ground enough to fear that he may attack his Royal Highneſs in Lombardy. I mention nothing of any enterprize which may be expected from the Emperor againſt the Venetians, Florence, or any other State of Italy, ſince theſe are not ſo immediately our concern as the former ſuppoſitions.

In theſe views, and under theſe apprehenſions, the ſteps which her Majeſty has taken are theſe: firſt, ſhe propoſed to the Imperial Miniſters at Utrecht, the withdrawing in time the Empreſs and the German forces out of Catalonia, and when theſe Miniſters received the propoſition with an air truly Auſtrian, her Plenipotentiaries repreſented to them in very plain terms, that they are not in a condition of bargaining, and that if they do not come to a prudent reſolution very ſpeedily, they may chance to pay dear for their folly.

In order to illuſtrate this matter the better, and to enable you to make the French miniſters enter rightly into the Queen's ſenſe, I ſend you extracts of my firſt letter to her Plenipotentiaries on this ſubject, of their anſwer to me, and of my reply to them.

The Duke of Argyle will propoſe upon this head, that if the Germans are willing to evacuate Catalonia, till ſuch time as they have an opportunity of doing it, which cannot be immediately, the Spaniards ſhall not moleſt them.

By my laſt diſpatch you ſee what my opinion was of the objections made by the French miniſters to the amendments offered by Dr. Henchman for the form of Philip's renunciation, wherein the Princes of the Blood of France are enumerated. I am now to tell you, that when this point was debated laſt night before the Queen, I found all the Lords concurred with me; and ſome of them inclined to think the amendment more neceſſary, on account of the earneſtneſs ſhown by the French Court to have it omitted. However, having obſerved in Monſieur de Torcy's letter to me of the 27th inſtant, this expreſſion, *car il eſt à croire que l'act. original du Roi d'Eſpagne eſt préſentement en chemin, que le Roi le recevra en peu de jours, &c.*— I moved, and with a great deal of difficulty prevailed, to have a private inſtruction ſent to Lord Lexington, that in caſe the act was paſſed, he ſhould not inſiſt to have the whole over-hauled for the ſake of this alteration; otherwiſe, that he ſhould endeavour to have it inſerted. It was however the ſenſe of the council, that even our ſubmitting to this expedient ſhould not be communicated to the Miniſters of France.

Having at laſt got Mr. Gilligan's inſtructions, and his other papers diſpatched, I take it for granted, that he ſets out to-morrow, with Drift, for Paris. I have ordered the boat to ſtay for them at Dover, and I ſend theſe packets to London, to go by their conveyance. As Mr. Gilligan is a man of a good deal of merit in his ſphere, and is employed

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by the Queen in an affair of the utmoſt importance, as well as to the reputation of her Miniſters, as to the preſent and future advantages of her kingdoms, I make no doubt but that during his ſhort ſtay at Paris, he will have all the countenance, ſupport, information, and recommendation, which you can give him.

Your friend Drift brings your letters of credence, and your powers, and theſe will ſoon be followed by a ſcheme of the loweſt expedient which we can admit of upon the ſubject of North America, and upon thoſe articles of the treaty of commerce which are ſtill in diſpute between us and France. My notion is, that we loſe no time, by delaying to confer with the French Miniſters upon theſe heads: the matter is already extremely trite; we are both well apprized of our reſpective intereſts, and neither ſide has much reaſon to hope to outreach the other. Debating would, therefore, be of little uſe; we ought rather to reduce our demands as low as the expectations of our trading people will allow us, and then propoſe them to the French as ſo many *ultimata*; who will then have their choice, either to accept them to ſecure the peace, or to refuſe them at the expence of keeping the treaty open, and expoſing the negociation to new hazards.

Though I was glad to find by Brigadier Price's* letter, that he had received the Queen's orders which I ſent him from Fontainbleau, and that he was preparing to put them in execution, I was at the ſame time concerned to ſee that Terragona was not garriſoned by her Majeſty's troops, though it had been fortified at her expence, nay, though her hoſpital and all her ſtores were in the place. But this is of a piece with the reſt of that conduct which we did not think fit to change, till we were almoſt ruined by purſuing it.

Theſe particulars being out of the way, I muſt now give you an account of what is working in Holland; of the application made from

* Commanding in Catalonia.

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thence to the Queen, and of her Majeſty's thoughts upon the preſent conjuncture.

You will ſee by the incloſed* what I write to Monſieur de Torcy; you will pleaſe to enforce my arguments, and endeavour to ſhow the French Miniſters, that as the Queen's behaviour is clean and frank, as ſhe has done more in order to force a peace than they could have expected, ſo it will become them not to hazard the continuance of the war for a town more or leſs; ſtill giving this turn to all the inſtances, that her Majeſty is not departing from any facility ſhe has hitherto ſhown, but concerting in confidence what may be moſt eligible for our mutual intereſt, and the common good of Europe. You know the principle laid down is, that the proceedings of the Queen's allies gave advantages to the French which ſhe could never have given them; and if things continued in this ſituation till we were ready to ſign, that the peace ſhould be concluded without ſtaying for the concurrence of any of our allies; but if the confederates, and eſpecially the Dutch, ſhould, before the concluſion of our treaty, come into the Queen's meaſures, deſire what is paſt may be forgot, and ſhow a ſincere intention of acting in concert with her Majeſty, that, in ſuch caſe, ſhe could not avoid eſpouſing their intereſt, and taking them along with her. The States of Holland are likely to chooſe the latter turn, and have already made ſeveral advances towards it. What has paſſed at Utrecht you will ſee by the incloſed papers, the originals of which were brought to me laſt night by expreſs, from the Queen's Plenipotentiaries†.

* Copy of letter to de Torcy, 30th September.

† The Britiſh Plenipotentiaries informed the Secretary of State, that the States-General had declared they were diſpoſed to comply with her Majeſty, and to deſire her good offices with France; particularly that Tournay and Condé might be left to them, as part of their barrier, without which they could not be ſafe; that the Elector of Bavaria might not be ſuffered to retain a town in the Netherlands, which would be as bad for Holland as if thoſe places were in the hands of France: therefore they propoſed that Luxembourg, Namur, Charleroy, and Nieuport, might be delivered to the Emperor; that the French might not inſiſt on excepting the four ſpecies of goods out of the tariff of 1664; and that if her Majeſty could prevail with France to ſatisfy the States on theſe articles, they would be ready to ſubmit in all the reſt.

On Saturday, as I was ſetting out for this place, the *Heer van Borſele* * came to my office, and made a propoſition much like that of Buys, and uſhered it in with the ſame ſort of preamble. The Grand Penſionary has writ to my Lord Treaſurer; and the aim of theſe people ſeems to be, either to reſtore their union with the Queen, and by her means to make their peace with France and Spain, or elſe, by publiſhing how far in conſideration of her, they have receded from their firſt demands, and by ſubmitting, in terms of the greateſt humility, to move the compaſſion of mankind towards them, and ſome degree of indignation towards us, as if we were too partial in favour of France.

I think you ſhould not appear to Monſieur de Torcy to know the contents of my letter to him, at leaſt of this part of it; but you ſhould take all occaſions of ſhowing him, that if the Dutch do ſubmit, we muſt not continue in this ſtrangeneſs towards them, nor entirely decline to favour their intereſts; that Tournay is not worth the peace, and though the King may be deſirous to ſave it, yet if he can make an end at once, and reſtore the tranquillity of Europe by yielding it, that it will not become his profeſſions to inſiſt too long upon it.

You will farther inſinuate, that the Queen's ſpeech has been ſo openly acknowledged by the French, as a plan they approved, that it will be hard to go back from the terms of it; and that you doubt it is impoſſible to diſtinguiſh themſelves into a right to retain Tournay by that paragraph thereof which relates to the barrier of Holland.

We do not expect that France will immediately give up a town which they are for ſo many reaſons fond of, no more than we expect that the Dutch will immediately and expreſsly abandon their demands of Condé; but this manner of opening ourſelves to Monſieur de Torcy, is agreeable to the friendſhip which we profeſs to each other, and think

* The Dutch Ambaſſador.

you can hardly miſs diſcovering what his and the other Miniſters' intention at the bottom is.

I remember he ſpoke to me of bringing the Dutch in as a very capital point, and ſuch no doubt it is, for the reſt of the allies cannot ſo much as make a ſhow of war.

The King's life, the Queen's life, and other conſiderations, will occur to you, at leaſt as faſt, perhaps faſter than to me; but there is one expectation which perhaps the French may entertain, and which you muſt cure if you find the ſmalleſt ſymptom of it.—They may be apt to reaſon thus: let us keep off from cloſing with Holland; we have the winter before us; the Britiſh Miniſters will be afraid to meet the Parliament without cloſing the negociation firſt; and therefore they will either oblige the Dutch to yield Tournay, or they will finiſh without the Dutch, if we are ſtiff. Now this logic is certainly falſe; for if it comes once to be known, and it is not poſſible the ſecret ſhould be kept, that Holland would have concluded their peace at the ſame time as the Queen, provided they might have had Tournay, we ſhall not dare to leave them behind us; and I muſt tell you, on this occaſion, that ſome of our beſt friends among the Tories would, in ſuch a caſe, join to condemn us. If, therefore, the Dutch ſhould put their agreeing or not agreeing upon ſo ſhort an iſſue as one town, which they will ſay they give up ſo much to keep, I doubt the conſequence of the French refuſing to comply would be a neceſſity on the Queen to appear on the ſide of Holland, and very probably before the ſitting of Parliament to drive the matter to an iſſue, and then appeal to her people.

By what I have ſaid, you enter, I am ſure, into our ſentiments, and into the ſtyle you are to uſe with Monſieur de Torcy.

I have got at laſt the affair of the Griffon* compounded, not with-

* A French Eaſt-Indiaman.

out very great difficulty, though the ſum to be paid to the captors is ſo large as 35,000 l.; the ſhip was plainly prize, and the paſs ſent over hither might have been proved to have been numerically one of thoſe delivered at Fontainbleau four days after the Griffon was in Sir Thomas Hardy's power, though Gaultier was ready to ſwear that he received it ſome months before; which part of the Abbot has, I confeſs to you, done him no good in my opinion.

Adieu, dear Matt,

I am for ever your's,

BOLINGBROKE.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

MONSIEUR,

Du Château de Windſor, le 30me Septembre, V.S. 1712.

JE ſuis venu ici Samedi paſſé, & j'ai eu l'honneur de lire à la Reine une partie de votre dernière lettre du 27me Septembre. J'aurois à préſent auprès de moi, les matériaux d'une très longue dépêche, ſi pour vous épargner autant qu'il m'eſt poſſible de la peine parmi les grandes occupations qui vous accablent, je n'avois écrit fort en détail à Monſieur Prior. Comme il eſt aſſez heureux pour vous faire fort ſouvent ſa cour, il ne manquera pas de choiſir les quart d'heures les moins incommodes pour vous parler ſur les divers articles.

La Reine trouve que la déclaration que Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de France feront, doit ôter tout le ſcrupule des ſiens, & applanir la difficulté qu'ils avoient formé, & qu'ils enviſagoient comme très grande. Je leur écris dans ce ſens, & ces Miniſtres parleront conformément aux vôtres, avec leſquels ils concerteront en même-tems la ſatisfaction qui doit être donnée ſur l'affaire de cet ivrogne de Rechteren.

Sa

Sa Majeſté m'a auſſi commandé de leur faire part de la règle qu'elle a établie, & qu'elle a promiſe au Roi Très Chrétien d'obſerver dans le cours des négociations. Elle eſt fort aiſé de voir qu'il n'y a point eu de méſentendu ſur cet article, & que vous avez compris le plan qu'elle prétend ſuivre avec la dernière exactitude, de la manière que j'ai eu ordre de l'expliquer, quand j'étois en France, dans toutes les occaſions, & principalement dans des conjonctures comme celle-ci, où le parties qui traitent ſont du premier rang parmi les hommes, & où les points dont il s'agit ſont de la dernière importance au bonheur du monde ; la meilleure choſe qu'on puiſſe faire eſt de ne rien laiſſer d'obſcur ou d'équivoque dans les termes dont on ſe ſert, & dans les principes qu'on veut ſuivre. C'eſt ce que me ſemble nous avons fait juſques ici, & peut-être n'y a-t-il point d'exemple d'une négociation conduite comme celle-ci, où les travailleurs de part & d'autre n'ont rien à ſe reprocher. Cela nous doit être d'une grande conſolation, & nous faire bien augurer du ſuccès de notre grande ouvrage.

Le langage des Hollandois à l'égard de l'Electeur de Bavière, eſt, à ce que je vois, bien différent. Car ils paroiſſent, quand ils nous parlent, réſolus de ne lui laiſſer aucune place dans les Pays-Bas Eſpagnols.

Vous pouvez être ſûr que j'ai rendu compte à la Reine de la manière dont le Roi me parla ſur le chapitre de ce Prince infortuné, & je ne doute pas que vous n'ayez communiqué à ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne les ſentimens de la Reine ſur ce même ſujet, leſquels j'ai eu l'honneur de vous expliquer, & que je ne trouve pas être changés depuis mon retour ; ſi vous faites comparaiſon de ce qui peut être obtenu pour cet Electeur, avec ſes mérites perſonels, ou avec les obligations que la France & l'Eſpagne lui peuvent avoir, cela vous paroîtra à la vérité peu de choſe ; mais quand vous enviſagerez l'affaire d'un autre côté, & quand vous prendrez la peine de conſidérer que ce Prince a perdu tout ce qu'il avoit du ſien, & tout ce que le Roi d'Eſpagne lui

lui avoit ou confié ou donné à l'excluſion de Luxembourg, Namur, Charleroi, & Nieuport, je crois que vous conviendrez que les offres qu'on lui fait ne ſont pas inconſidérables, par rapport aux reſtitutions & aux eſpérances qui lui ſont préſentées. En un mot, vous ſavez, Monſieur, les ſentimens du cœur de la Reine, mais vous ſavez auſſi, les engagemens & les meſures que ſon honneur l'oblige, & l'obligera toujours de garder.

Afin de conſerver auprès de vous mon caractère, & de garder cette ouverture de cœur que je vous aie ſi ſouvent promiſe, il eſt néceſſaire que je vous faſſe ſavoir que Dimanche au ſoir j'ai reçu par un courier des lettres d'Utrecht, qui ſont en datte du 5me d'Octobre, N.S. Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Reine y marquent que cinq de ceux des Etats-Généraux avoient été ce matin même en conférence avec eux; qu'ils leur avoient repréſenté, dans la manière la plus pathétique, la réſolution que leurs maîtres ont priſe, de ſe joindre à la Reine, dans toutes les meſures néceſſaires pour parvenir à la paix. Qu'ils leur ont parlé de Tournay & de Condé comme des places, dans l'opinion unanime de la République, eſſentielles à la ſureté de la barrière, & que pour tous les autres articles de la paix, ils affectoient de montrer une grande facilité, & une parfaite ſoumiſſion à la Reine. Vous voyez, Monſieur, le pli que la Hollande va prendre; vous connoiſſez très bien la conſtitution de nos affaires domeſtiques, car je ne vous ai rien déguiſé quand je vous ai parlé là-deſſus, ſongez en grand & en habil Miniſtre comme vous l'êtes, au parti que vous devez ſuivre, & ſoyez aſſuré que je ne ferai autre uſage d'aucune confidence que vous trouverez à propos de me faire, que celui qui convient à un galant homme, & à votre ſerviteur.

La réponſe que je donne, par ordre de la Reine, aux ouvertures des Miniſtres de l'Etat, eſt aſſez générale. Je m'attends à un renouvellement de leurs inſtances, & comme le Comte de Strafford doit venir à

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la Cour en peu de jours, pour recevoir l'Ordre de la Jarretière, il ſera indubitablement chargé de tout ce que ces Meſſieurs peuvent dire, & de toutes les aſſurances qu'ils peuvent donner, pour ſe réconcilier entièrement à la Reine, & pour procurer que leur paix ſe faſſe avec la ſienne. J'ai même quelque raiſon de croire que ce Miniſtre ſera autoriſé de répondre que pourvu que les Etats puiſſent garder Tournay, ils ne balanceront plus à entrer dans toutes les meſures qu'on puiſſe exiger d'eux. Il ne faut pas que je m'étende à raiſonner ſur ces faits, vous voyez à un coup d'œil, beaucoup plus que je ne ſuis capable de vous ſugérer. Il vaut mieux que je finiſſe ma lettre, en vous aſſurant que je ſuis,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

B.

To the Earl of Strafford.

My Lord,

Windſor Caſtle, September 30, 1712.

ON Sunday night, about eleven o'clock, the Cabinet roſe, and I then received the favour of your Lordſhip's laſt letter, of the 5th of October, for which, and the good news it contained, I return my humble thanks.

Your Lordſhip aſks my opinion, and I will tell it you with that freedom which becomes me, when I write to ſo good a friend. The Queen's ſenſe and her preſent orders, you will find in my other diſpatch.

I think then, that we are to endeavour ſo to conduct ourſelves, as not to ſuffer the French on one hand to aſſume a ſuperiority, and to preſcribe in the negociation; and not to let the States imagine, on the other,

other, that we want their concurrence to make our peace, or court them for any reaſon but our deſire to preſerve them. Upon this foun-tion, I likewiſe think, that to obtain the Queen's entire concurrence with them, and hearty endeavours for them, the States muſt ſuit their demands to thoſe circumſtances which their ingratitude to the Queen, and their obſtinacy have reduced them to. I think they muſt demand for themſelves only, and be content, in conjunction with the Queen, to try to get what can be had for others; and I think, when they have done this, that the Queen muſt not ſuffer France to keep the whole world in arms, for a town the leſs, when they obtain ſo many more than they once expected to have.

I write to Monſieur de Torcy, by the Queen's order, to inform him that the States ſhow an inclination to come in the meaſures of peace; which, when I was in France, he ſeemed to think very deſirable, as what muſt decide the whole; that we foreſee the caſe will happen which I ſtated to him, of the ſubmiſſion of the Dutch, and therefore, that he muſt expect to find them ſupported, and waited for by the Queen; that whilſt the Queen is at this diſtance from them, and whilſt they are uncertain how far ſhe may lay aſide her anger, and con-deſcend to receive them, it is probable they may come in at once, and cloſe the peace upon the ceſſion of Tournay; but if France continues to hold off, and the States continue to court the Queen, I write him word that they may perhaps aſk, and the Queen be obliged to give her ſupport to ſtill higher terms than thoſe which would now ſuffice. Up-on the whole matter, I conclude, that we gain time on the ſide of Hol-land till we can hear from him, and I earneſtly conjure him to lay the matter ſeriouſly to heart, and not to run out into new confuſions, the end of which neither he nor I can foreſee, for the ſake of a town the more.

I confeſs

I confeſs, my Lord, the Dutch do ſeem to take the right pli at laſt, but give me leave to ſay, it is the only tolerable one which is left them to take; for I fear neither their throwing themſelves into the hands of France, nor their adhering to the Emperor's chimerical project: one is mad, the other ſilly. They can never expect France will give them better terms without the Queen, than with her, and the propoſals which come from Vienna, have not ſo much as the force of probability to invite *.

I ſhould go farther on this ſubject, but this and the contents of my other letter, will be enough for one poſt, and beſides, I ſuppoſe we ſhall meet in few days, ſince you will receive a letter from the Treaſurer, to call you to court, on an errand that cannot be more to your Lordſhip's ſatisfaction, than it is to mine. Give me leave to add, that if my Lord Treaſurer writes to you to come, your Lordſhip ſhould not loſe a moment of time in your journey, becauſe I look on affairs to be haſtening to their criſis, and you may better be ſpared this fortnight than the next. Adieu, my dear Lord, I am as true to you, as your own heart, and for ever

Your faithful, &c.

From Mr. Prior.

MATT TO HENRY,

BELIEVE how truly I love you, and think it my friendſhip that I tell you. Going to Chanille this afternoon, Monſieur de Torcy and Madame, and Monſieur Dalincourt, Secretary to the Admiralty, in

* The propoſals of furniſhing an immenſe army to continue the war, were very grand upon paper, but the exhauſted ſtate of the Auſtrian dominions, with reſpect to men and money, rendered their fulfilment extremely improbable.

the coach; Monſieur de Torcy read, and gave us to read, the Dutch Gazetteer, and upon a paſſage in one, aſked me, if it were true, that at the Secretary's office, paſſports were ſold for ſix pounds each *? You will think the confuſion I was in, and the manner in which I turned it, of which I will write to you *en droiture*, not being able in the mean time to conceal any thing from you, where I think your honour concerned; make what uſe you pleaſe of this.

Adieu, I am very truly,

My dear Lord, your's.

From Mr. Prior.

My Lord,

Paris, { 10 October, / 29 September, } 1712.

I AM glad to find by Dagley, who returns from Turin, that the Earl of Peterborough was happily within five days' journey of that place. I take the opportunity of the ſame meſſenger's going for England, to thank you for your's of the 17th of September, O.S. which I received by way of Dunkirk. I tranſmitted the incloſed advice from

* By a memorandum relating to fees of Lord Bolingbroke's office, it appears that the fees for the Queen's paſs were,

To the Secretary,	£. 5	0	0
Two Under-ſecretaries,	1	0	0
Clerk,	0	5	0
Chamber-keepers,	0	2	6
	£. 6	7	6

The amount of all the fees received in his office, from the 21ſt September, 1710, to 30th September, 1711.

By the Secretary,	£. 3719	12	8
Two Under-ſecretaries,	1160	19	4
Clerk,	344	4	0

Such was the ſtate of the office in time of war; but in the time of peace, the poſt of Under-ſecretary of State, was by no means a ſituation of emolument. By a memorandum ſigned by the two Under-ſecretaries, George Tilſon and Thomas Hare, dated December, 1713, the net profit to each was only 128l. 1s. *per annum*.

Nevis

Nevis to Monſieur de Torcy, without much exaggeration, the thing ſpeaking itſelf, eſpecially ſince you will write to him by the courier, whom I every day expect with Drift; this hopeful project, as far as I hear of it, was Pontchartrain's, the ſhips were fitted by private perſons, who bear the expence, and have the advantage of the expedition. It was deſigned for St. Salvador, againſt the Portugueſe, or Surinam; and I know already that the anſwer we ſhall have, will be, that they had no direction to annoy us, and that this court had no advice of this fact, till thus long after its being committed. I ſhall ſee Monſieur de Torcy on Wedneſday, and upon it ſhall be able to give you a farther account of this matter, of which, I ſee they are all aſhamed and ſtartled.

I this moment receive your's of the 19th of September, relating to two ſhips taken by the French, though they had Spaniſh paſſes. I preſume, Peter Huſch, mentioned in the complaint, will apply to me, at leaſt, I will have him found out, and endeavour to get the complainants relieved. I can only beſeech you again and again, to diſpatch Drift in caſe he be not already gone, for I have nobody either to copy, receive, or ſeal up a letter for me, to carry a meſſage, or receive an anſwer; and though I have hitherto tranſacted with the miniſters here upon the Levant, my want of powers and orders grows downright ridiculous. You ſee that I dare write to you with the greateſt liberty, it is becauſe I am very truly and faithfully, your

Lordſhip's, &c.

M. Prior.

Incloſed, I ſend your Lordſhip a letter from the Marquis de Monteleon*, wherein he expreſſes his joy for being named to England. He has

* Montelon ran away with the daughter of Huguetan a French Proteſtant, who from a vender of pamphlets and breviaries, acquired ſo immenſe a fortune, that he ſupported for ſome time the credit of Louis XIV. Pontchartrain forced him to ſign bills of exchange for ſeveral millions,

has dormant powers of ambaſſador, which he will take when her Majeſty ſhall think proper.

PRIVATE.

Paris, October 10, 1712.

I THANK you, my dear Lord, for your concern as to my health, I think I am much better. I told you my diſtemper, which going off in twelve days, was ſucceeded by what I ſhould not name, a ſort of dyſentery, which, for my comfort, they ſay is uſual; *c'eſt l'uſage, Monſieur*, is unanſwerable, you know, in this country; however, this too goes off, or at leaſt diminiſhes, after which remains the returning an hundred impertinent viſits, the laſt remains, I hope, of the diſtemper.

Nil admirari is your motto; I would own to any man elſe, my aſtoniſhment in that I have not a word of any kind from England.

God Almighty be thanked that the Queen is better. Adieu.

My Lord,

Ever your's,

M. PRIOR.

I am ſure you are not angry with me for what I writ to you in characters. You can't think how people talk of it here; I deny it ſtifly as to your part, and will do ſo to death.

I write a long letter to Lord Dartmouth, of ſeveral particulars, I writ to him long ſince, that the two Engliſh ſhips which were to wait upon the Duke of Argyle at Toulon, ſhould be received into that port. I every day find the inconvenience of being to correſpond with two

which Huguetan refuſing to pay, he was obliged to fly to the Hague. There he married the natural daughter of a Prince of Naſſau. At laſt he ſettled in Denmark, where he contributed greatly to the proſperity of the country. He died 1750, aged 112, of grief for not obtaining the blue ribbon of the Order of the Elephant.

offices, but *que faire?* what nobody will remedy every body muſt ſuffer. Pray give no paſſports to French refugees, for they will be all incarcerated.

Adeu, my Lord, we muſt go through the impertinences as well as the ſerious follies of life.

Service to Brother Hill*; I hope he is recoverd, for I would not have you afflicted at any thing. Adieu.

From Mr. Prior.

PRIVATE.

M. TO H.

Paris, October 17, 1712.

I AM glad the nomination is aſſented to, even as I dreſt it; I think it is as ſtrong as you wiſh. *But* I had theſe additions made by Henchman ſent me, with a promiſe that the next poſt they ſhould come authentically, in Latin, with the renunciation. *But* three couriers intervened, and they never came. *But* without your laſt letter, I ſhould not have had grounds to have founded a memorial. *But* in a thing that preſſes thus, and for which the peace ſtays, I have no order to ſend this agreement away immediately to Lord Lexington, though I have taken upon me ſo to do. *But* if it had not been for your letter, I ſhould not have heard that the French had ever been at Montferrat, except from the Dutch Gazettes. *But* we have been generouſly promiſed twelve paſſports for Spaniſh ſhips this month, which, when I tell Monſieur de Torcy, will, without fail, come by Gilligan, I am anſwered that the ſhips are already gone without the paſſports. *But* I have more to write than I can poſſibly perform, and dare not employ

* Members of the club ſaluted each other with the appellation of Brother.

one

one hand in France; and can get neither Drift or any other clerk from England. *But* I have not one word kept or entered of any thing I do write, or ſhould write. *But* I am forced to make Monſieur Pecquet* come to me; for example, twice this day, while Monſieur de Torcy ſtays for him: add to this, the honeſt ſtupidity of my Engliſh Jonathan, in France, and the complaiſance of two French dogs, and one Walloon, in new liveries, that call every body Marquis, and furniſh me with a levée of ſpies, projectors, and beggars; that bring Jacobites in to me before I wake in the morning, and put tall Iriſhmen to bed to me. *Parlons d'autres choſes.*

The renunciation being now as we deſire, I ſuppoſe we are to come as ſoon as we can to our peace. How far, therefore, are we agreed at Utrecht? Are the articles in which we think we are agreed, ſpecified and worded as plainly and diſtinctly as we deſire? for you know as our circumſtances ſtand, the fuller this is done, it is the better; for example, the firſt article of *pax generalis*, &c.; the ſecond of hoſtilities ceaſes; the 3d or 4th, or ſometimes 5th, of ſecuring mutually the property of the ſubject may be more fully expreſſed, and have ſometimes ſo been than in the treaty of Ryſwick†, which followed jejunely that of Breda; and you know tautology is no ill figure to the *many*. If any article remains yet not ſuperviſed and agreed, as that particularly of the *droit d'Aubaine* taken off, ſhould not ſuch articles be all ready drawn up, in order to their being conſented to? And even that article which will ſpecially refer to the renunciation to be made, which will be the baſis of the treaty?

The article which will ſay France ſhall never aſſiſt the Queen's enemies, &c. ſhould ſtay in the very words as mentioned in the 4th of Ryſwick; it looks at leaſt more authentic, ſtanding thus confirmed in two treaties, and I believe cannot be ſtronger; there are other reaſons

* By a letter from this gentleman to Mr. Hare, he appears to have been private Secretary to Torcy.
† Prior was there Secretary to the Embaſſy.

too

too for it. I wiſh, therefore, that a copy of the treaty were ſent hither, as it is deſigned, with an account of every article, as agreed, or to which any thing is to be added.

As likewiſe of a treaty of commerce, what already agreed, what aſked, what to be adjuſted, and by whom. In this caſe, my dear maſter, we ſhould have our work before us.

As to the treaty itſelf, ſince the ſigning it is to be a ſort of a ſecret, what harm if it be ſigned at London? is it not as honourable to the Queen, that d'Aumont comes to her Court to ſign a peace, as Meſnager did to own her authority; and as you ſigned a ceſſation at Paris, is it not as handſome that you confirm it by ſigning a peace at Whitehall? this, I ſay, I have been hammering, and will hint or prevent as you ſhall think proper. I need not proteſt that it is with true friendſhip that I ſhall in this or any thing endeavour what may be for your honour and ſatisfaction.

Your moſt truly,

M. Prior.

Conſult my Lord Treaſurer upon the contents of my letter, and let me found myſelf upon your anſwer. Madame de Torcy is glad that you are ſo good; la Feriole thanks you, but nobody muſt ever do one ſingle kindneſs for a woman, and you muſt back your recommendation, and I muſt write, and this brother (not worth hanging, I fancy, after all) muſt be eſtabliſhed in his *abbaye de l'Abondance*. The Duke of Argyle is arrived this evening at Paris; I have ordered every thing for his reception, but ſince I muſt diſpatch the courier to-night, and have an audience to-morrow morning, I cannot ſee him till towards noon.

From

From Mr. Prior.

My Lord,

Verſailles, 6-17th October, 1712.

I AM to thank you, my Lord, for your letter of the 26th September; the ſenſe I have of your friendſhip, I will demonſtrate in the actions of my life; the regard I have to your reaſonings the *mémoire* * incloſed will

* *Mémoir de Monſieur Prior, préſenté à Monſieur de Torcy, Octobre 3-14me, 1712.*

"Selon ce que j'ai eu en charge de la part du Comte deDartmouth, dans ſa lettre du 15me du dernier mois, j'ai eu l'honneur de vous repréſenter, qu'ayant examiné les termes de l'Acte de Renonciation on avoit trouvé convenable d'y ajouter les explications ci-jointes (1). Comme au même-tems il vous a plu d'agréer que ces additions fuſſent inſérées dans l'acte, & que vous avez fait objection ſeulement à celle qui ſuit. 'Après le mot paſſé & tranſmis, on doit inſérer les noms des perſonnes 'ſur leſquels le droit de ſucceſſion ſeroit déclaré d'appartenir en vertu de la renonciation.'

"Suivant votre intention & mon devoir, j'ai envoyé en Angleterre votre conſentement aux autres additions, & votre objection à celle-ci, devant rapportée, comme auſſi la lettre que vous avez écrite au Vicomte de Bolingbroke ſur ce ſujet.

"Le tout ayant été mûrement examiné par la Reine en ſon Conſeil, ſa Majeſté m'a commandé par le Comte de Dartmouth, de vous communiquer ſes ſentimens et ſa réſolution là-deſſus.

"Que quant à l'objection, que Philippe étant Prince étranger, prendroit ſur lui par cette nomination de régler en quelque façon la ſucceſſion à la Couronne de France, la réponſe eſt évidente, que Philippe, en égard à cet acte, ne peut ni ne doit être cenſé Prince etranger, & n'y paroît point en cette qualité, mais, bien au contraire, en celle d'un Prince du ſang de France, & ſi proche en ligne à la ſucceſſion de cette couronne, qu'en cette conſidération ſeulement, il a été déjà convenu qu'il n'étoit pas poſſible d'aſſurer une paix durable à l'Europe, ſi Philippe ne faiſoit une renonciation, tant pour lui que pour ſes deſcendans à la Couronne de France, ſans entendre y faire aucune réſerve de ſes droits & prétenſions, de quelque manière que ce puiſſe être; cela étant, on trouve abſolument néceſſaire de nommer dans l'ordre légitime à la ſucceſſion de la Couronne de France, en vertu de la renonciation; car l'acte paroîtroit très imparfait qui diroit négativement que Philippe & ſes deſcendans renoncent à la Couronne de France, ſi les Princes qui y ſont appellés en vertu du même acte n'y étoient pas poſitivement nommés: & tant s'en faut que Philippe ſoit regardé à préſent comme Prince étranger, qu'il ne peut être réputé pour tel par la Reine qu'après l'entier accompliſſement du dit acte. Dans l'acte même, il eſt déclaré, en termes généraux, que Philippe cède ſon droit à toutes les branches de la famille royale de France, même au Princes les plus éloignés; il ne peut être cenſé par-là de leurs donner un nouveau droit, ni de diſpoſer de la Couronne de France en faveur d'aucun d'eux. Ainſi en nommant les Princes les plus proches, & qui doivent ſuccéder plus immédiatement à cette couronne, il ne peut être cenſé de leur attribuer un autre droit que celui qui leur advient dans l'ordre du ſang, par le moyen de la renonciation; & bien loin de nommer de nouveau des ſucceſſeurs à la Couronne de France il ne fait que répéter ceux qui y ſont déjà appellés plus ſpécialement, quand il renonce pour lui-même & pour toute ſa poſterité, à la Couronne de France, il conſente qu'on regarde ce droit comme paſſé & tranſmis à celui qui ſe pourra trouver plus proche en degré, immédiatement après le Roi, le préſent Dauphin, & leurs deſcendans, & par conſéquant, le cas arrivant, ce droit tombe directement, ſur Monſeigneur le Duc de Berry, & ſes deſcen-

(1) Je ne les envoye point, elles ont été toutes agréés excepté la ſuivante.

dans

will ſhow you; upon which we have gained our point: and I think the nomination* of the perſons, &c. is done in a manner unexceptionable: ſo, once more, I thank you for ſenſe, argument, light, and aſſiſtance, which you gave me, and which I beg you to continue to me.

I made, I hope, a right uſe of what you hinted to me in your former letter; and though the ſubject (of Caſſart's invading our iſland) made me chagrin enough, I pretended to be more ſo than I really was; I ſhowed and expounded your letter, ſaid I dreaded the conſequences this muſt have in England, and the orders I ſhould have from my Lord Treaſurer, and which, upon Thornborough's arrival, I ſaid I had received both from Lord Treaſurer and yourſelf. I found all our friends very uneaſy at this accident, and heard Caſſart and Pontchartrain curſed very heartily; and, as I ſaw opportunity, I propoſed to Monſieur de Torcy to conſider the nature and danger of this outrage at this time, and to find ſomething on his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty's

dans à jamais, & faute d'eux, ſur Monſieur le Duc d'Orleans & ſes deſcendans à jamais; on ne voit point de difficulté à énoncer leurs noms, puiſque le ſens de l'acte renferme même leur nomination.

" On ajoute que dans l'acte authentique de la convention pour la ſuſpenſion d'armes en Flandre, cette dévolution des droits de Monſeigneur le Duc de Berry & de Monſieur le Duc d'Orleans, & leurs deſcendans, a été déjà particulièrement ſpécifiée & énoncée.

" La Reine a donné ſes ordres au Lord Lexington, avant ſon départ d'Angleterre, en conformité du mémoire que jai l'honneur de vous préſenter, & comme la France s'eſt déjà engagée que la renonciation ſera faite de la manière que ſa Majeſté trouvoit la plus ſatisfactoire, elle ſe perſuade que le Roi ne tardera point à donner, conjointement avec elle, la main pour applanir cette difficulté, & pour ôter tous moyens aux ennemis de la paix de prétexter qu'il y ait quelque omiſſion dans la forme d'un acte ſur l'explication duquel dépend l'amitié & la bonne correſpondance entre les royaumes de la Grande Bretagne, de la France, & de l'Eſpagne, & la ſureté future de toute la Chrétienté."

" A Verſailles, le 15m Octobre, 1712."

* " *La Nomination des Princes du Sang, &c.*

" Je veux & conſens pour moi & mes dits deſcendans, que dès à préſent comme alors, on regard ce droit comme paſſé & tranſmis à mon frère le Duc de Berry, & à ſes enfans & deſcendans mâles nés en légitime mariage: à leur défaut, à mon uncle le Duc d'Orleans, & à ſes enfans & deſcendans mâles, nés en légitime mariage: à leur défaut, à mon couſin le Duc de Bourbon, & à ſes enfans & deſcendans mâles nés en légitime mariage. Ainſi ſucceſſivement à tous les Princes du Sang de France, leurs enfans & deſcendans mâles, à jamais, ſuivant le rang & l'ordre où ils ſeront appellés à la couronne par le droit de leur naiſſance; par conſéquent à célui des dits Princes (moi étant, ainſi que mes dits deſcendans, exclus, devenus inhabiles, & incapables) qui ſe pourra trouver plus proche en degré immédiatement après le Roi, par la mort duquel la dite Couronne de France viendroit à vaquer, & à qui en devra appartenir la ſucceſſion, en quelque tems & en quelque cas que ce puiſſe être, pour qu'il l'ait, & la poſsède comme ſucceſſeur légitime & véritable, de même que ſi moi & mes deſcendans ne fuſſions point nés."

ſide, that might ſet us right, for that his (Torcy's) friends in England ſuffered as actually on this occaſion as the merchants that were invaded and robbed. This I write to you as a comment upon what he writes to you, and that you may not be ſurpriſed at a propoſal which I don't know if you expected: I write likewiſe to Lord Treaſurer. I own I have ſtretched a little in repreſenting what I have received from you and Lord Treaſurer on this ſubject, but I hope I have done ſervice to my Queen and country, and acted as became

Your moſt, &c.

M. PRIOR.

Animal peregrinè miſſum
ad mentiendum R. P. cauſâ.

We have not yet Monſieur Pontchartrain's anſwer; I believe it muſt wait till next courier.

From the Duke of Ormond.

MY LORD,

Ghent, 21ſt of October, 1712.

I TAKE the opportunity of an expreſs, which brought me ſome letters this morning from Oſtend, and is returning thither, to acquaint your Lordſhip with an affair which has been communicated to me by a perſon who is very well inclined to her Majeſty's ſervice: your Lordſhip will but judge of the importance of it, and the uſe that is to be made of it, when I tell you that the ſucceſs of the enterpriſe upon Knoque has encouraged the forming of a project for ſurpriſing Nieuport or Furnes; and that the fortifying Dixmude is made uſe of as a pretence for drawing together a body of troops ſufficient to put the deſign in execution. If it be thought moſt for her Majeſty's ſervice to prevent it, I am humbly of opinion ſome means ſhould be found

found to give advice of it to the Mareſchal de Villars, who may poſſibly think we owe him that good office in requital of ſome informations your Lordſhip knows he has given me, with a deſign to ſerve her Majeſty and the nation. I am not yet at liberty to acquaint your Lordſhip with the name of my author, who deſires the whole matter may be managed with the greateſt ſecrecy, which is a caution I know I need only mention to your Lordſhip. I hear nothing new to-day from Bouchain; but am aſſured the troops of both armies, which are to quarter in parts moſt remote from theſe countries, are already on their march, and that Prince Eugene will be the 24th at Bruſſels.

I am, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient,

Humble ſervant,

ORMONDE.

To the Lord Privy Seal.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, October 14th, 1712.

MY other letter contains nothing, and very little will be contained in this.

It is now ſome time ſince I had reaſon to believe that Mr. Jefferys* did not ſpeak of the Queen's affairs, and of the character of her ſervants, either with juſtice, or, indeed, with decency. I have ſince had very authentic information of his diſcourſes concerning the treaty of peace, and her Majeſty's conduct in the preſent juncture of affairs. I own to your Lordſhip, that nothing hindered me from complaining of this gentleman to the Queen, but the conſideration that he is honoured

* Jefferys ſucceeded Dr. Robinſon as Reſident at the Court of Sweden.

with your patronage. I hope he will learn to deſerve your favour better; perhaps ſome hint from your Lordſhip might teach him to govern himſelf with more diſcretion.

I find ſo many falſe accounts, as of every thing elſe, ſo particularly of the Queen's health, in the foreign papers, that I think it proper to let your Lordſhip know, that her Majeſty has had in her arm a regular fit of the gout, to the joy of her phyſicians, and that ſhe enjoys extreme good health, as multitudes can witneſs, for there was a very full court on Sunday laſt at Windſor; though the Dutch Gazetteers are taught by their Whig correſpondents to ſay, that few people have acceſs to her.

I am, my Lord,

With all poſſible reſpect, &c.

A Monſieur le Duc de Noailles.

De Whitehall, ce 11me Septembre, 1712, V.S.

VOUS ne pouvez jamais, Monſieur, me faire un plus grand plaiſir, qu'en me fourniſſant les occaſions de rendre ſervice à ceux qui ſont aſſez heureux pour jouir de votre protection, & je tâcherai de me conduire d'une manière à vous convaincre que je n'oublierai jamais les faveurs dont vous m'avez comblé.

Conſervez moi, Monſieur, cette amitié que vous m'avez promiſe, & ſoyez aſſuré, que dans toutes les circonſtances de la vie je ne ceſſerai jamais d'être plus parfaitement que perſonne,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

A Monſieur

A Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont.

De Whitehall, ce 11me Novembre, 1712, V.S.

LES nouvelles qui viennent d'arriver d'Eſpagne hâteront la concluſion du grand ouvrage de la paix; c'eſt la réflexion d'un Miniſtre: elles obligeront le Duc d'Aumont de ſe rendre bientôt ici; c'eſt la réflexion d'un ami: vous m'avez, Monſieur, permis de porter ce beau titre, & je ne veux jamais le quitter. L'Abbé Gaultier me dit que vous attendez des paſſeports d'Hollande pour envoyer vos equipages. Il me ſemble que ces paſſeports ne ſont pas fort néceſſaires, puiſqu'il ne tient qu'à vous d'avoir une frégate ou deux pour les eſcorter. Il y a même long-tems que j'ai offert à votre intendant de lui donner les ordres de la Reine, pour deux vaiſſeaux de ceux qui ſont préſentement aux Dunes. On a perdu l'occaſion de vous faire avoir la maiſon du Comte de Leiceſter, dont je ſuis extrêmement fâché, parce qu'il ſera très difficile de trouver une autre qui vous convient. Je ne manquerai pourtant pas d'y contribuer tout ce qui dépend de moi.

Le Duc d'Hamilton eût ordre Dimanche paſſé, de preſſer ſon départ, & je crois qu'il commencera ſon voyage en dix ou douze jours.

Monſieur Prior retournera cette ſemaine en France. Il ſera chargé de vous renouveller les aſſurances de cet attachement très parfait avec lequel j'ai l'honneur d'être,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

A Monſieur

A Madame de Feriole *.

MADAME,

De Whitehall, ce 11me Novembre, V.S. 1712.

SON Alteſſe Royale a eu la bonté de promettre, que d'abord qu'il ſera rentré dans la poſſeſſion de la Savoye, il confirmera à Monſieur l'Abbé de Tencin †, le don que le Roi lui a fait de l'abbaye d'Abondance ‡.

Je vous félicite, Madame, de cette bonne nouvelle, & ſi le ſuccès que j'ai eu en exécutant vos premiers ordres, me procure l'honneur d'en recevoir d'autres, je ſuis aſſez heureux.

Monſieur Prior part cette ſemaine pour ſe rendre à Paris; je lui ai propoſé l'échange de nos emplois, mais il s'eſt montré trop ſage pour vouloir m'écouter. Tout ce que j'ai pu obtenir de lui, a été qu'il vous aſſureroit de la parfaite eſtime avec laquelle

Je ſuis, Madame, votre, &c.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

MONSIEUR,

A Verſailles, ce 17me Octobre, 1712.

LA lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire, & que j'ai reçu par Monſieur Prior, me donne l'eſpérance d'en recevoir bientôt une autre, qui contiendra les intentions de la Reine de la

* Monſieur de Feriole was Ambaſſador to Conſtantinople, and there inſiſted upon wearing his ſword in the preſence of the Grand Signior, which the Turks would not permit, and Feriole refuſed to attend the Court. Lord Stair calls Madame de Feriole by her maiden name, Tencin, and ſays, that Bolingbroke had an amour with her; but his authority, being the crafty Genevois Saladin, is queſtionable. The Editor has been induced to omit many paſſages in the letters to and from Prior, which are either unimportant or of a private nature, but in no one is there to be found any evidence of ſuch an imputation.

† Pierre de Guerin de Tencin: in 1724, he was conſecrated Archbiſhop of Embrun, he was ſoon afterwards made Cardinal, and in 1739, was talked of to ſucceed Cardinal de Fleury.

‡ This abbey is in the dioceſe of Geneva, and in the nomination of the King of Sardinia.

Grande

Grande Bretagne, ſur tous les articles de ma lettre du 27me du mois dernier.

C'eſt un grand plaiſir pour moi, Monſieur, de recevoir ſouvent vos ordres, & en même-tems des aſſurances de l'honneur de votre amitié, dont je deſire la continuation beaucoup au-delà de ce que je puis vous exprimer.

Nous avons eu quelque conteſtation, Monſieur Prior & moi, ſur l'énumération que vos avocats veulent faire, de tous les Princes du ſang; je crois cependant que vous trouverez que j'ai raiſon, lorſque vous lirez le projet que je lui ai propoſé, & dont je joins la copie à cette lettre. Il me ſemble qu'il donne à l'acte de renonciation toute la force que vous voulez, & qu'on évite de faire une longue liſte qui ne ſerviroit qu'à obſcurcir inutilement un acte qu'il eſt néceſſaire de rendre très clair & très intelligible.

Les armes que vous me donnerez ſeront toujours bonnes, il n'eſt queſtion que de s'en bien ſervir, & ſouvent je ſouhaiterois qu'elles fuſſent en de meilleures mains, voyant l'importance de l'affaire dont il eſt queſtion; je crois cependant qu'il y a lieu d'eſpérer plus que jamais, qu'avec votre ſecours, elle ſera conduite heureuſement au port.

Il paroît que les Hollandois commencent à ſe radoucir, & Meſſieurs vos Plénipotentiaires ont déclaré à ceux du Roi, que les Etats-Généraux conſentirent préſentement à traiter, ſur le fondement que Lille ſeroit reſtituée à ſa Majeſté. Voilà un premier pas; il en fait encore quelques autres; mais les premières démarches coutent toujours le plus à faire.

Il eſt très néceſſaire, Monſieur, que la Reine faſſe preſſer Monſieur le Duc de Savoye de finir; il s'arrête à des bagatelles, & pendant qu'il diſpute pour obtenir quelques ſommets des Alpes, & quelques villages qu'il n'aura pas, il s'expoſe à perdre le royaume de Sicile; car il y a beaucoup d'agitations dans cette iſle, & les habitans, naturellement inquiets, diſent, aſſez hautement, qu'il vaut mieux ſe choiſir un maître,

& ſe donner à la maiſon d'Autriche, que de ſouffrir qu'on diſpoſe d'eux comme un troupeau de moutons. Si la paix étoit faite, ſuivant le plan, il ſeroit aiſé de mettre immédiatement après, Monſieur le Duc de Savoye en poſſeſſion de la Sicile, il ſauroit bien enſuite contenir ſes nouveaux ſujets dans le devoir.

Les Plénipotentiaires de Portugal diſent beaucoup de pauvretés à Utrecht; il ſeroit de la charité de la Reine pour les Portugais, d'obliger le Roi leur maître, à demander au plutôt la ſuſpenſion d'armes. Les Eſpagnols aſſiègent préſentement Campo Mayor, qui vraiſemblablement ne fera pas une longue réſiſtance, ſi elle eſt bien attaquée. Les Portugais ont de leur côté lévé précipitemment le ſiège d'un château nommé Caravajal, qu'ils commençoient d'attaquer.

J'écris une longue lettre à Monſieur le grand Tréſorier au ſujet de l'avanture déſagréable arrivée en Amérique. Le Roi l'a regardée comme un contretems très fâcheux, mais de ceux qu'on ne peut prévoir, & qui pouvoit arriver de votre part de même que de celle de la France, ſans qu'il y eût lieu de s'en plaindre. Toutefois ſa Majeſté propoſe des expédiens pour réparer le dommage, quoiqu'en bonne juſtice, elle n'y ſoit pas obligée: mais elle veut vous donner moyen d'impoſer ſilence aux infidelles.

Je ne doute pas que l'Abbé Gaultier ne vous ait rendu compte des propoſitions que je lui ai mandé de faire pour avancer la ſignature de la paix; ainſi je ne les repéterai point, & s'il y a quelqu'une qui ſoit du goût de la Reine, j'attendrai vos ordres.

Je vous ſupplie cependant, de croire qu'on ne peut être avec plus de vérité, & plus d'attachement, que je ſuis, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

Le Roi d'Eſpagne a différé juſqu'au 20me de ce mois l'ouverture des Etats, ainſi Monſieur le Comte de Lexington aura le tems de ſe rendre à Madrid avant le commencement de l'aſſemblée.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Verſailles, le 21me Octobre, 1712.

VOUS alarmez ſouvent, Monſieur, nos Plénipotentiaires, et quoiqu'on puiſſe faire, pour les raſſurer, l'inquiétude ſe renouvelle auſſitôt que vos miniſtres à Utrecht ſemblent appuyer les prétentions des Hollandois.

Vous m'avez donné des armes pour me défendre contre des pareilles terreurs, & j'ai reçu encore votre dernière lettre, lorſque j'ai rendu compte au Roi du voyage de Monſieur le Comte de Strafford, à Londres, & des diſcours qu'il avoit tenus à Utrecht & à la Haye, avant ſon départ.

Je ſuis donc fortifié contre les nouveaux aſſauts des infidelles, & je ne crains pas que la Reine de la Grande Bretagne preſſe le Roi comme on eſpère en Hollande, de ſe déſiſter de la reſtitution de Tournay; mais je vous fais compliment, Monſieur, d'avoir enfin réduit les Hollandois au point que la paix générale dépende aujourd'hui de ſa Majeſté Britannique, car il eſt certain que Meſſieurs les Etats-Généraux, déjà d'accord de céder Lille, conſentiront encore plus aiſément à reſtituer Tournay, néceſſaire pour la barrière de France, lorſque la Reine voudra bien leur déclarer qu'ils ſont trop heureux que le Roi ſe contente de cette place, & que ce ſoit la ſeule condition que ſa Majeſté demande pour le prix des ſuccès d'une campagne qu'ils pouvoient éviter en différant à vos exhortations, & à votre exemple.

Ainſi la concluſion de ce grand ouvrage eſt entre les mains de ſa Majeſté Britannique. Ses ordres à Monſieur le Comte de Strafford acheveront de ramener les Hollandois à la raiſon, & je ſuis perſuadé, Monſieur, que vous ne perdrez point de tems à le renvoyer en Hollande inſtruit de ce qu'il doit dire pour obliger cette République à céder ſur l'article de Tournay. Elle n'eſt pas en état de

le conteſter plus long-tems, & vous ſavez mieux que perſonne qu'elle feroit fort embarraſſée s'il faloit encore faire une nouvelle campagne.

Terminez donc les affairs, puiſqu'elles ſont au point de leur maturité, & ſauvez à la Reine la peine de faire des inſtances inutiles quand elle ſait les intentions du Roi, & le déplaiſir qu'elle auroit de refuſer ſes demandes.

En vérité, Monſieur, la Sicile, accordée de bonne grâce à vos inſtances, mérite bien que vous ne faſſiez de pas au ſujet de Tournay qu'envers nos ennemis, & que vous les obligez par vos réponſes à conclure une paix, dont leurs provinces ont un preſſant beſoin. Que la Reine ordonne à Monſieur le Comte de Strafford de parler déciſivement à ſon retour à la Haye, & je vous réponds du ſuccès. Il vaut mieux obliger des ennemis comme nous étions autrefois, que des amis tels que ſont les Hollandois préſentement.

Mais vous croirez peut-être, Monſieur, que je me laiſſe auſſi gagner par l'inquiétude des infidelles; je vous aſſure que j'en ſuis bien éloigné, & que perſonne n'a plus de confiance que moi en vos paroles.

Monſieur le Duc d'Argyle vint ici avant hier, & il eût l'honneur de voir le Roi hier au matin. Il a paru fort content des diſpoſitions où il a trouvé ſa Majeſté, & je ne doute pas qu'il n'en rende un compte exact à la Reine. Il convient qu'il ſera de l'intérêt commun de détourner autant qu'il ſera poſſible les ſujets de ſa Majeſté Britannique de porter des bleds à Barcelonne, tant que les Allemands demeureront en Catalogne.

Je vous ſupplie, &c.

De Torcy.

Le Roi ſait certainement, Monſieur, que les Hollandois ont réſolu de céder Tournay, & qu'ils veulent ſeulement faire une tentative qu'ils croient eux-mêmes inutile.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

MONSIEUR,

A Verſailles, le 26me Octobre, 1712.

VOUS aurez vu, par la lettre que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous écrire le 21me de ce mois, que le Roi étoit informé du voyage que Monſieur le Comte de Strafford faiſoit à Londres, & de la commiſſion principale dont il étoit chargé auprès de la Reine, de la part des Etats-Généraux.

Je n'aurois aujourd'hui qu'à vous répéter ce que je vous marquai par la même lettre au ſujet de Tournay, ſi Monſieur Prior ne m'avoit parlé très vivement ſur cet article, & s'il n'avoit employé les raiſons les plus preſſantes pour engager le Roi à s'en déſiſter, dans la vue de procurer plus promptement la paix. Je vous avoue, Monſieur, que je n'ai pas été de ſon opinion, je lui ai même fait voir que la Reine ne penſoit pas comme lui, parce que ſa Majeſté Britannique approuvoit la déclaration que Meſſieurs de France ont faite à ceux de la Grande Bretagne, & qui ne laiſſe aucune incertitude ſur les intentions du Roi à l'égard de Tournay. Je ne ſais ſi je l'ai perſuadé, mais je puis vous aſſurer, que ſes argumens m'ont été d'autant moins convainquans, que dans tout ce qu'il m'a dit je n'ai vu nulle aſſurance d'une paix certaine, quand même le Roi voudroit ſacrifier encore au bien générale de l'Europe, une place auſſi conſidérable que Tournay, & auſſi néceſſaire pour la ſureté de ſa frontière.

J'ai relu pluſieurs fois, Monſieur, votre dernière lettre, avec beaucoup d'attention; ce que j'y trouve de plus fort, eſt que les Hollandois ont pris la réſolution de ſe joindre à la Reine dans toutes les meſures néceſſaires pour parvenir à la paix; qu'hors l'article de Tournay, ils affectent une grande facilité ſur toutes les autres conditions, & une

parfaite ſoumiſſion aux intentions de ſa Majeſté de la Grande Bretagne; mais je ne vois pas, Monſieur, qu'ils déſiſtent des autres points contenus dans le dernier mémoire qu'ils ont remis à Meſſieurs vos Plénipotentiaires; il ne paroît pas qu'ils s'expliquent clairement ſur la barrière, & quant au commerce, ils inſiſtent encore ſur les quatre eſpèces que le Roi veut excepter du Tarif de 1664. Ils continuent de parler de la barrière du côté de l'Empire, d'une manière que ſa Majeſté ne peut jamais admettre; enfin l'excluſion qu'ils donnent à l'Electeur de Bavière ôteroit à ſa Majeſté tous les moyens de ſatisfaire en rien aux engagemens qu'elle a pris avec ce Prince.

On ne peut donc regarder l'article de Tournay comme le ſeul point qui arrête encore la paix, ainſi que je le croyois lorſque j'eus l'honneur de vous écrire il y a peu de jours, & ſuivant ce que Monſieur Prior m'a dit hier.

A la vérité, Monſieur, ſi toutes ces difficultés étoient levées, s'il étoit poſſible d'aſſurer à Monſieur l'Electeur de Bavière un dédommagement conforme au plan que je vous ai envoyé, ou tout au moins de lui donner avec la Sardaigne, ce qu'il poſſède préſentement dans les Pays-Bas, je vous avoue que la certitude d'une paix très prochane, où la Hollande entreroit de concert avec la Grande Bretagne, l'honneur & l'intérêt de la Reine, & permettez-moi d'y ajouter, celui de ſes Miniſtres, ſeroient de puiſſantes raiſons pour determiner le Roi de faire un pas que ſa Majeſté avoit bien réſolu de ne jamais faire; vous ſavez même qu'elle avoit lieu de croire que la Reine ne lui feroit aucune inſtance ſur cet article.

C'eſt donc à ſa Majeſté Britannique à juger ſi elle peut donner & maintenir de pareilles aſſurances; en ce cas, Tournay n'arrêtera pas un bien auſſi grand que celui de la paix. Mais s'il faut encore eſſuyer de nouvelles difficultés de la part de la Hollande, du Duc de Savoye, ou des autres Princes que la Reine jugera néceſſaire de faire entrer dans le traité, ou bien s'il faut abandonner un allié tel que l'Elec-

teur

teur de Bavière, le Roi ne prétend point s'engager à ſe déſiſter d'une demande auſſi juſte que celle de la reſtitution de Tournay.

Enfin, Monſieur, il faut que cette ceſſion ſoit le dénouement de la guerre, & le gage d'une paix certaine entre la France, la Grande Bretagne, & la Hollande, & ceux des alliés que vous pouvez y faire entrer. Si cela n'eſt pas, le Roi demande l'exécution du projet dont ſa Majeſté eſt convenue avec la Reine, c'eſt à dire, de faire une paix particulière immédiatement après que les renonciations concertées auront été enrégîtrées.

Voilà tout ce que le Roi peut faire, & je ſuis perſuadé que vous trouverez que c'eſt beaucoup, après tout ce que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous dire & de vous écrire, & de plus ſa Majeſté étant inſtruite de l'état & des réſolutions de la Hollande.

Je vous ſupplie de croire qu'on ne peut être plus parfaitement que je ſuis,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

De Monſieur de Torcy.*

A Verſailles, le 26me d'Octobre, 1712.

QUOIQUE Matthieu ſoit l'homme du monde le plus inſupportable, je crois, my Lord, qu'il a encore aſſez de probité pour travailler de bonne foi, & tout de ſon mieux à finir notre ouvrage; nous ſommes donc convenus qu'il partiroit pour aller vous trouver, & pour vous aſſurer, mieux que je ne puis faire moi-même, du deſir ſincère & véritable qu'on a ici de conclure & avec vous & avec des alliés à qui vous donnez une protection qu'ils n'ont guères méritée; mais c'eſt vous que l'on conſidère, & l'état de vos affaires.

* This is evidently a private letter.

Finiſſez donc, my Lord, comme il dépend de vous de le faire, & renvoyez au plutôt Matthieu, afin que j'aie le plaiſir de le faire pendre, comme il s'y eſt engagé, ſi la paix n'eſt pas conclue moyennant la ceſſion de Tournay.

S'il eſt de bonne foi, il vous dira ce que je ſouffre en mon particulier de ce changement; les infidelles triomphent & je reçois des reproches que d'autres ſervices n'effaceront jamais. Mais je ſouffre pour vous, & ſi la paix ſe fait comme j'eſpère, je ſerai content quand même Matthieu ne ſeroit pas pendu.

Je ſuis, &c.
DE TORCY.

Je vous prie, Monſieur, de faire attention aux deux mémoires qu'il vous remettra, dont vous connoiſſez parfaitement l'importance.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

ENFIN, my Lord, le point capital de la renonciation du Roi d'Eſpagne vient d'être conſommé à Madrid, & je ne puis mieux vous informer de ce qui s'eſt paſſé en cette occaſion, qu'en vous envoyant la copie de la lettre que Monſieur de Bonac * à écrite au Roi en ſortant des Cortes, où la fonction s'eſt faite. Je ne doute pas que Monſieur le Comte de Lexington, qui en a été témoin, n'en rende compte à la Reine.

L'enrégîtrement de l'acte de renonciation ſera fait au Parlement de Paris, auſſitôt que l'original, qu'on attend de Madrid, ſera arrivé ici; & les copies authentiques en ſeront auſſi enrégîtrées enſuites dans tous les autres Parlemens du royaume.

Vous voyez, my Lord, que de la part du Roi, tout eſt comme ac-

* Envoy of France at Madrid.

compli.

compli. Car les renonciations de Monſieur le Duc de Berry, & Monſieur le Duc d'Orléans, ſont prêtes, & elles partiront pour l'Eſpagne auſſitôt que l'acte original de la renonciation du Roi Catholique ſera arrivée. C'eſt donc de vous préſentement, qu'il faut attendre la conſommation de l'ouvrage, & je ſuis perſuadé que vous ne la différerez pas. Je vous avoue que je ſouhaiterois fort qu'il ne fut pas néceſſaire de prolonger le tems de la ſuſpenſion dont le terme finit dans un mois.

J'attends avec impatience de nouvelles de Monſieur Prior, & quelque ſujet que j'ai de me plaindre de lui en mon particulier, je ſerai très aiſe de le revoir, ſans qu'il mérite d'être pendu. Son retour me fera d'autant plus de plaiſir que je ſaurai de lui de vos nouvelles particulières ; & je vous aſſure my Lord, qu'il y a peut-être nul endroit au monde où l'on s'intéreſſe plus ſenſiblement qu'ici à tout ce qui vous regarde.

Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont preſſe vivement ſon départ, mais je voudrois bien que Matthieu fut revenu auparavant, quoique j'ai appris à mes dépenſes qu'il faut ſe défier de ſes conſeils.

Je ſuis, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Marli, le 15me Novembre, 1712.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 11me Novembre, V.S. 1712.

QUOIQUE Matthieu doit partir à la fin de cette ſemaine, je n'ai pourtant pas voulu manquer de profiter de cette occaſion de vous écrire, par le courier que l'Abbé Gaultier a deſſein de dépêcher, & de vous dire que je me trompe fort ſi vous ne ſoyez content de nous.

Les inſtructions du Comte de Strafford ſont dreſſées, & j'en ai montré à l'Abbé un article par lequel il eſt très expreſſément ordonné à ce

Miniſtre

miniſtre, auſſi-bien qu'à Monſieur l'Evêque de Briſtol, de déclarer aux miniſtres de l'état, que c'eſt pour la dernière fois que la Reine les recherche, que ſa Majeſté eſpère qu'ils accepteront les conditions qui leur ſont offertes, & qu'ils entreront ſans réſerve & ſans délai dans les meſures de la paix ; que s'ils prétendent de perdre plus de tems en négociant, ou de créer de nouveaux obſtacles par des demandes ultérieures, la Reine conclura ſon traité avec la France & l'Eſpagne, & ne s'embarraſſera plus des intérêts de leur république.

Au ſurplus, vous voulez bien que je me remette à ce que j'aurai l'honneur de vous écrire en deux jours d'ici par ſon Excellence Matthieu. Je crois que vous le trouverez inſtruit à finir toutes choſes, & que malgré ſa phiſionomie, qui n'eſt pas des plus heureuſes, il ne ſera pas pendu pour le coup.

Avant que de finir cette lettre, il faut que je vous diſe, Monſieur, que j'ai fait arrêter un certain Beaulieu, qui ſe dit Languedocien ; il prétend d'avoir eu une affaire avec Monſieur de Baville, au ſujet d'une aſſemblée de Proteſtans, tenue dans le Haut Vivares, & d'un paſſeport donné à un nommé Prurat, & s'être rétiré par cette raiſon de France. Je ſais qu'il s'eſt donné beaucoup de mouvement parmi les réfugiés, & je le ſoupçonne d'avoir trâmé des deſſeins chimériques à la vérité, mais qui ne doivent pourtant pas être négligé : je ſais ſes addreſſes, & j'ai pris des meſures ſûres pour arrêter toutes ſes lettres ; je vous avertirai de tout ce que je pourrai découvrir.

Je finiſſois ma lettre quand votre courier eſt arrivé, par lequel j'ai reçu celle que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 15me de ce mois. Je me réjouis avec vous, Monſieur, de la bonne nouvelle ; les ennemis de la paix ne pourront plus traverſer ce grand ouvrage, & je me flatte qu'en très peu de ſemaines on y donnera la dernière main.

Prior ne tardera pas à jouir d'un bonheur que je lui envie, celui de

vous

vous voir, & de vous embraſſer; le Duc d'Hamilton le ſuivra de près.

Adieu, Monſieur, tout aimable que vous êtes, il n'y a pas peut-être au monde un homme qui vous aime tant que

Votre, &c.

B.

To the Earl of Strafford.

My Lord,

Whitehall, November, 11th, 1712.

YOUR Lordſhip will receive with this letter, the inſtructions to my Lord Privy Seal and yourſelf, together with ſome papers referred to in them, and others which I judged neceſſary for your Lordſhip's information *. The extracts of letters relating to the barrier treaty, will ſerve as vouchers to ſome matters which you will have occaſion to advance; and which will very probably be controverted, when you come to debate the new project with the Dutch Miniſters. I confeſs I mean particularly to enable your Lordſhip, and Lord Privy Seal (at the ſame time as you tell the Dutch that there can be no union between us and them, unleſs they agree entirely to lay aſide the whole barrier-treaty, that ſcandalous inſtance of our being ſold by a faction)

* Incloſed were inſtructions for the Lords Plenipotentiaries, dated November 11th, 1712.—Copy of Monſieur Hoffman's memorial, dated October 22nd, 1712.—Copy of Lord Bolingbroke's anſwer, dated November 11th, 1712.—Copy of Monſieur Mellarede's memorial.—Points relating to the Duke of Savoy.—A paper concerning North America.—A paper concerning the articles of the treaty of commerce not yet adjuſted.—Copy of the articles not yet adjuſted, together with the amendment made to ſome of them, by the Plenipotentiaries of France, upon the firſt project of the articles to be inſiſted upon to be made part of the treaty of commerce.—A compariſon of duties according to the tarif of 1664.—A compariſon of extracts of letters, from Mr. Boyle, to Lord Townſhend, concerning the barrier-treaty; *viz.* 5th, 10th July, 2nd, 8th November, 1709.—Extracts of letters, from Lord Townſhend to Mr. Boyle, of the 2d, 5th July, and 26th November, 1709.—And one to Lord Sunderland, of the 1ſt of November, 1709.

to reproach the Penſionary and the other Miniſters for impoſing ſo groſsly on the eaſineſs and good-nature of my Lord Townſhend, as to make him admit ſuch things as they propoſed, though foreign to the ſucceſſion or the barrier, after they had eſtabliſhed it as a principle, that nothing ſhould be inſerted in that treaty, but what immediately concerned either the one or the other.

Your Lordſhip will find no paper wanting, but the new project of a treaty of ſucceſſion and barrier, of which it has not been poſſible to make a tranſcript, the only copy of it being my *brouillon*, and that being in Mr. Tilſon's hands, who tranſlates it into Latin. Your Lordſhip will, however, be ſure to receive it before you ſet out from London, and if you was to go ſooner, it ſhould overtake you on the road.

I am, &c.

A Monſieur le Chevalier de Molé.*

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 14me Novembre, V.S. 1712.

JE ne ſaurois me diſpenſer de vous ſupplier d'accorder votre protection à Monſieur & Madame Calandrini, qui retournent à Paris. On leur a fait peur des partis de Huſſars & autres qu'on prétend être en campagne ſur cette frontière. Ayez la bonté de leur donner des eſcortes, ſi vous le jugez néceſſaire, & de les récommander au Commandant de Boulogne.

Je ne puis laiſſer échapper cette occaſion de vous faire mes très humbles remercimens de toutes les faveurs dont vous m'avez comblé, dans mon dernier voyage. Je ſuis pénétré d'une très vive reconnoiſſance, & j'oſe vous aſſurer, que je ſuis plus qu'homme au monde,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

* Intendant at Dunkirk.

Je

Je prends la liberté d'aſſurer Madame de Molé de mes très humbles reſpects.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 14me Novembre, V.S. 1712.

QUOIQUE je craigne de vous être importun, je ne puis pourtant pas m'empêcher de vous récommander encore une fois les intérêts de Monſieur Calandrini. Je les regarde comme les miennes propres, & comme je n'ai jamais ſenti une douleur plus vive que celle que m'a cauſé le malheur de cette famille, ainſi ne puis-je eſpérer un plus grand plaiſir que celui de la voir rétablie par les bons offices & puiſſante protection de l'homme du monde auquel je ſouhaiterois le plus d'être obligé.

La grâce que je demande pour eux, & qui les tireroit quoiqu'avec une perte très conſidérable, d'affaires, eſt que Monſieur Deſmarets aie la bonté de changer leurs aſſignations en des billets de Receveurs-Généraux, payables aux mêmes échéances, qui ſont en 1714 & 1715, s'ils pouvoient en même-tems obtenir une cinquantaine de milles livres à compte de leurs aſſignations, la faveur ſeroit complète, & l'obligation que je vous en aurois éternelle.

Encore un coup, pardonnez à mon importunité, & ſoyez perſuadé que je ſuis, & que je ſerois toute ma vie, avec la plus haute eſtime, & la plus parfaite amitié,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

B.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce me Novembre, V.S. 1712.

ENFIN, Monſieur, nous voici à la veille de la paix, & j'eſpère que vous trouverez les argumens de Monſieur Prior plus convaincants à ſon retour, que vous n'avez fait avant ſon départ.

La fermeté de la Reine vaincra l'opiniâtreté des Hollandois, les facilités qu'a données ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne mettront ceux qui gouvernent cette république dans un état à n'oſer plus long-tems faire les guerriers. Voilà comme nous raiſonnons ici.

Mais ſi contre notre attente, les Etats-Généraux prenoient le parti de vouloir, après la ceſſion de Tournay, former les demandes ultérieures, & embarraſſer la négociation de nouveau, la Reine ſe contentera d'avoir fait pour eux tout ce qu'elle a pu, & dans ce cas, Monſieur, les Plénipotentiaires de ſa Majeſté ſigneront avec ceux des alliés qui voudront y entrer, le traité particulier avec la France & l'Eſpagne.

Ce que j'ai l'honneur préſentement de vous écrire, eſt conforme aux inſtructions que Monſieur le Comte de Strafford vient de recevoir, & cette réſolution paroît ſi déciſive qu'il n'eſt plus néceſſaire d'entrer dans la diſcuſſion de pluſieurs points contenus dans votre dépêche du 26me Octobre. Il me ſemble que nous devons être contents les uns des autres, & vous me permettrez, Monſieur de vous dire, que ſi le Roi de ſon côté à fait quelques ſacrifices pour l'amour de la paix, ce n'étoit que ſur la confiance que la Reine a toujours eu dans les intentions de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne qu'elle a fait de certains pas, qui ne ſont pas dans la régle ordinaire de la négociation, & que vous ſavez très bien, ſans qu'il ſoit néceſſaire que je les rappelle.

Monſieur

Monſieur Prior vous expliquera de bouche ce que la Reine fait déclarer aux Etats-Généraux ſur les intérêts de l'Electeur de Bavière, & ſa Majeſté eſpère que le Roi verra par-là combien elle ſouhaite de lui plaire dans tout ce qui dépend d'elle. Il faut pourtant, Monſieur, que je diſe, que nous ne voyons pas comment les prétenſions de ce Prince viennent à être mêlées avec la propoſition de la ceſſion de Tournay. Quand il s'agiſſoit de donner la Sicile au Duc de Savoye, vous diſiez que ce royaume étoit deſtiné par le Roi d'Eſpagne à l'Electeur de Bavière, lequel, par conſéquent, devoit être dédommagé, ce dédommagement fut même ſpécifié, & la Sardagne fut demandée ; mais aujourd'hui le cas eſt fort différent, & vous m'avouerez que Tournay ne ſeroit point donné à l'Electeur ſi les Hollandois furent obligés à s'en déſiſter.

La ceſſion de la Sicile accordée, & le droit du Duc de Savoye à la couronne d'Eſpagne ſubſtitué après le Roi Philippe & ſes enfans, on ne peut plus douter que ce Prince n'entre dans toutes les meſures qui ont été priſes pour parvenir à la paix. La Reine compte là-deſſus, & en effet ſon Alteſſe Royale eſt trop éclairée pour vouloir renoncer à des avantages réels & ſolides, tels que nous lui propoſons, & ſe repaître des chimères de la cour de Vienne.

L'article de la barrière du côté de la France paroiſſoit devoir être la pierre d'achoppement. Vous ſavez, Monſieur, combien vous avez été roide là-deſſus, & je vous puis aſſurer que les Miniſtres de Savoye en ont toujours parlé comme d'une choſe eſſentielle aux intérêts de leur maître, & ſans l'acquiſition de laquelle il n'obtiendroit pas cette ſureté que ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne a promis de vouloir faire trouver dans la paix à tous les alliés. Par ce que Monſieur Prior aura l'honneur de vous repréſenter, vous verrez que cette difficulté ne ſubſiſte plus, & il me ſemble que ſon Alteſſe Royale ſe retranche à ne demander que ce qui a été renfermé dans l'offre d'Exilles, de Feneſtrelles, & de la Vallée de Pragelas, ou pour mieux dire, que ce qui eſt abſolument néceſſaire

ceſſaire pour rendre ces places d'aucune utilité. A l'égard de la liberté de fortifier, que ſon Alteſſe Royale ſouhaite d'avoir, nonobſtant le traité de 1696, je crois que le Roi ne fera point de difficulté de la lui accorder, pourvu qu'elle s'oblige à ne pas s'en ſervir pour rebâtir les fortifications de Pignerol.

J'ai parcouru les projets de traité qui ont été dreſſés à Utrecht, tant par Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaries du Roi que par ceux de la Reine; & je n'y trouve de différence conſiderable, que ſur deux articles, celui d'Amerique Septentrionale, & celui de commerce. Je ne veux pas entrer dans ce détail, ce ſeroit une affaire d'une trop longue diſcuſſion, & au lieu de vous écrire une lettre, je vous enverrois un livre. Monſieur Prior vous entretiendra ſur ces points, & je me bornerai à vous prier de tomber d'accord avec lui de quelques expédiens, afin que les Miniſtres à Utrecht n'ayent rien à démêler enſemble, mais puiſſent concourir unanimement à faire entrer les autres dans des ſentimens pacifiques.

Je veux finir cette lettre comme je l'ai commencé; enfin, Monſieur, nous voici à la veille de la paix, ne faiſons point naufrage dans le port, mais concluons au plutôt un ouvrage du ſuccès duquel dépend le bonheur de tant de peuples du ſiècle préſent, & de ceux qui ſont à venir.

Je ſuis, &c.

B.

To the Duke of Argyle.

My Lord,

Whitehall, November 19th, O.S. 1712.

I EXPECTED an opportunity of writing to your Grace by a more ſafe and ſpeedy conveyance than ordinary, but that having not yet offered itſelf, I no longer defer putting you in mind of one of the moſt

faithful and affectionate of thoſe many ſervants which you left behind you.

As to Mr. Durand, for whoſe ſettlement your Grace was ſo juſtly ſolicitous, I think he may depend on having a fixed eſtabliſhment of 500 l. a year; whatever falls ſhort of this ſum in the allowance of the ordnance, will be made up to him by particular warrant.

As to the money for carrying forward the works *, I cannot ſpeak ſo poſitively, but I will tell you ingenuouſly what I imagine is the ſecret—we are got into the winter, the meeting of the parliament approaches, and my Lord Treaſurer would be glad to ſee what inclination the Houſe of Commons will ſhow to furniſh ſupplies for this ſervice, before he engages in any extraordinary expence; beſides, he may perhaps conſider that theſe acquiſitions by the peace will appear much leſs valuable if an immediate charge attends them, let that charge be, in its conſequence, never ſo advantageous. In this manner I account for that care which I ſee taken to make the expence, both of Minorca and Port Mahon, look as little as poſſible, and to contrive, if that may be done, to make this contribute to its own maintenance; for this end, there is a Surveyor of the Crown appointed, who will ſhortly be ſent thither, and whoſe commiſſion will direct him to enquire into the tenures of lands, the preſent revenues, &c.

As to your Grace's uncle, who you deſire ſhould be made Commiſſary of the Muſters for the northern part of Britain, I have not been negligent in applying for him; but I have not yet received ſuch an anſwer as edifies me, or would edify you, and when I cannot ſpeak clearly, I chooſe to hold my tongue. My opinion is, that it is not intended for him; but I will ſhortly, either by Lord Ilay † or by letter to your Grace, be more categorical on this head.

* Probably the fortifications at Minorca. † Brother to the Duke of Argyle.

I muſt

I muſt not omit by this opportunity to acquaint your Grace with the tragical event of laſt Saturday: My Lord Mohun had, on Thurſday, given very brutal language to the Duke of Hamilton, at the chambers of a Maſter in Chancery; the latter replied in no provoking manner, and intended to paſs it over as the effect of wine; but the next day, Mohun ſent him a challenge by M'Cartney, that is, he who gave the affront demanded ſatisfaction of the perſon who received it. They fought, received three or four wounds each, and both died on the ſpot, or a few minutes after *.

I will detain your Grace no longer from being better employed than in reading my letter, but ſubſcribe myſelf, faithfully and affectionately,

Your's, &c.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, November 20th, 1712.

I RECEIVED this morning a letter from Monſieur de Torcy, with an account that the King of Spain's renunciation of the kingdom of France has been approved and regiſtered by the Cortes: that the Dukes of Berry and Orleans have ſigned their renunciations of any right to the Crown of Spain: that theſe laſt renuciations are ſent into Spain, to be regiſtered by the Cortes, as the former will be regiſtered in the Parliaments of France, the moment it arrives from Madrid, which Monſieur de Torcy is in hourly expectation of.

The French and Spaniards have, by theſe ſteps, almoſt entirely finiſhed the execution of the great article of the peace; and I find

* The unfortunate occurrence underwent the interpretation of party-prejudice; it was ſaid that the Duke of Hamilton did not meet with fair play from M'Cartney, the ſecond of his antagoniſt, and that his Grace died by a thruſt from him.

they

they are at Marly under no ſmall impatience for Mr. Prior's return, and to be informed of your Majeſty's deciſion. This eagerneſs, on the part of France, to conclude, ſtrengthens ſtill more your Majeſty's hands, and enables you to give the law.

It is my duty likewiſe to acquaint your Majeſty with a piece of intelligence which was ſent to the French Ambaſſador in Swiſſerland, from a perſon not named to me, but ſaid to live in the neighbourhood of the canton of Berne; and which, however improbable, is too horrid not to alarm thoſe who, by inclination and gratitude, as well as allegiance, are devoted to your Majeſty. The informer pretends to have diſcovered, in the cloſet of a ſenator who is in the intereſt of the allies, a deſign carried on by the allies, for thus general is the expreſſion, either by ſuborning your Majeſty's guards, or by gaining your ſervants, to poiſon your Majeſty, or carry you off. He adds, that moſt of the French refugees, who are, it ſeems, the newſmongers there, as they are in all other places, affect to give out that your Majeſty ſhall not arrive at the end you propoſe, but that all your meaſures ſhall be broken. Theſe are, I hope, nothing more than the effects of impotent, but noiſy, rage; and God, who has raiſed you up for the good of the world, will preſerve you as a bleſſing to your own people, and to all the nations round us. Monſieur de Torcy concludes his letter by mentioning the complaints made in Spain, that your Majeſty's troops acted after the ſuſpenſion of arms; which did happen, by Mr. Pearce's not receiving his orders in time.

I muſt not omit to let your Majeſty know, that the poſt has been robbed, both in France near Amiens, and here a little way out of Southwark; the letters directed to my Lord Treaſurer, to my Lord Dartmouth, to the Abbé Gaultier, and to one Malot, at whoſe houſe the latter uſually is, have been opened. The Lords have this evening directed an order of council to be prepared, on conſulting the Poſt-maſ-

ters, the Attorney, and the Solicitor*, for diſcovering the perſons concerned, and it will be ready to be laid before your Majeſty on Sunday, as likewiſe the inquiſitions of the Coroner, upon the deaths of Duke Hamilton, and Lord Mohun.

I beg pardon for the length of my letter, and am, Madam, your Majeſty's, &c.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

VOUS verrez, Monſieur, par la dernière lettre que j'ai reçu de Monſieur de Bonac, & dont j'ai l'honneur de vous envoyer la copie, que l'acte de renonciation du Roi d'Eſpagne à la Couronne de France avoit été approuvé & enrégîtré par les Cortes.

L'expédition de cet acte, que ſa Majeſté envoie ici en forme, n'eſt pas encore arrivée, mais le Roi ne l'a pas attendu pour faire ſigner & pour envoyer à Madrid, les renonciations de Monſieur le Duc de Berry, & de Monſieur le Duc d'Orléans; elles ſont portées par un courier exprès que le Duc d'Oſſune a dépêché au Roi ſon maître.

Ainſi, Monſieur, le Roi d'Eſpagne a renoncé à ſes droits ſur la Couronne de France, ſa renonciation eſt approuvée en Eſpagne, & enrégîtrée par les Cortes.

Les Princes de France qui pouvoient avoir droit ſur la Couronne d'Eſpagne y ont renoncé, & leurs renonciations ſignées d'eux & envoyées à Madrid, ſeront enrégîtrées par les Cortes immédiatement après l'arrivée du courier.

La renonciation du Roi d'Eſpagne à la Couronne de France ſera enrégîtrée inceſſamment dans le Parlement de Paris, & dans tous les autres parlemens du royaume, puiſqu'elle eſt déjà reçue & enrégîtrée

*. General.

par

par les Cortes, & que le courier qui l'apporte ici eſt attendu à tous momens.

Voilà donc ce que le Roi & le Roi d'Eſpagne ont promis, accompli en grande partie, & le reſte à la veille de l'être entièrement ; il ſemble que, les affaires en cet état, rien ne devroit plus arrêter la concluſion de la paix ; cependant, Monſieur, dans le tems que je n'attends de vous, que de bonnes nouvelles, je vous avoue que je ne puis m'empêcher d'être en peine de votre ſilence, & de celui de Monſieur Prior. L'Abbé Gaultier même ne m'a pas écrit depuis le 11me de ce mois. Je crois que vous comprendrez, & par conſéquence, que vous excuſerez aiſément mon impatience dans une conjoncture où il eſt ſi important de ſe conduire de concert.

Je vois de plus qu'on voudroit accuſer la France de retarder la concluſion de la paix, & vous ſavez ſi, de la part du Roi, il y a été perdu un moment. Sa Majeſté a même travaillé pour les intérêts de Monſieur le Duc de Savoye auſſi vivement que ſi le traité eut été conclu avec ce Prince, & cependant elle ne ſait pas quel eſt l'état de notre négociation à Turin ; on prétend même, & on l'écrit de quelques endroits de l'Italie, que ce Prince travaille à ſe lier plus que jamais avec la maiſon d'Autriche, que ſon principal objet, eſt d'obtenir pour le Prince de Piémont l'Archiducheſſe de l'Empereur Joſeph, avec le Milanés en dot ; qu'il préféroit l'acquiſition de ce duché à celle de la Sicile, regardant ce Royaume comme trop éloigné de ſes états pour le pouvoir conſerver, & que le Milanés ſervant de dot à l'Archiducheſſe, il en ſeroit Gouverneur perpétuel.

Je crois que vous aurez eu ces mêmes avis, mais il vaut mieux les répéter que de vous les laiſſer ignorer. Il n'y a pas lieu de douter auſſi que la Reine n'ait pas pris des meſures bien juſtes pour être aſſurée de Monſieur le Duc de Savoye. Le Roi a ſur cet article, & ſur tous les

autres qui regardent la paix, une entière confiance en la prudence de ſa Majeſté Britannique.

Mais, Monſieur, il eſt tems de finir, & comme c'eſt de votre côté qu'on doit attendre le dénouement, ne ſoyez pas ſurpris ſi je vous demande avec empreſſement de vos nouvelles. Je le fais avec autant plus de confiance que je ſais vos ſentimens & que je vois qu'il n'eſt pas moins conforme aux intérêts qu'à l'inclination de la Reine, de finir promptement l'ouvrage qu'elle acommencé, & que nous voyons preſqu'au point de ſa perfection.

Je vous aſſure que je ne puis m'empêcher d'être alarmé des diſcours que les ennemis de la paix ne ceſſent de tenir contre ſa Majeſté Britannique, quoique je ſuis perſuadé qu'ils n'ont d'autre fondement, que le deſir que ceux qui les tiennent, auroient de voir encore prolonger la guerre. Quelque vaines que ſoient leurs ménaces, je crois cependant Monſieur, devoir vous communiquer l'extrait que je viens de recevoir d'une lettre qui a été écrite à l'Ambaſſadeur du Roi en Suiſſe par un homme qui demeure dans le voiſinage du Canton de Berne. Vous en ferez l'uſage qu'il vous plaira, & j'eſpère que vous le regarderez comme un ſimple diſcours, dont les effets ne ſont nullement à craindre.

Monſieur le Comte de Lexington aura informé la Reine des plaintes qu'il a reçues de la part du Roi d'Eſpagne ſur ce que le commandant des troupes de la Grand Bretagne en Portugal n'a pas obſervé la ſuſpenſion, & qu'il a continué d'agir en faveur des Portugais. Il en a coûté aux Eſpagnols de lever le ſiége de Campo Mayor. Je ſouhaiterois pour les dédommager, & pour le bien des affaires, que la Reine put obliger Monſieur de Staremberg à faire embarquer les troupes Allemandes qui ſont en Catalogne, mais en vérité je doute fort qu'il ſe laiſſe perſuader.

Je

Je vous ſupplie de croire qu'on ne peut être avec plus d'attachement, & plus véritablement, que je ſuis,

Monſieur, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Marli, le 25me Novembre, 1712.

Le Roi fait Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont Chevalier de ſes ordres, avant que de le faire partir.

Permettez-moi encore, my Lord, de vous preſſer pour le bien de l'affaire, de me donner de vos nouvelles, & de ne perdre point de tems pour finir, puiſque vous voyez que de la part du Roi il n'y a pas eu un moment de perdu à conſommer ce qui vous a été promis.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce 21me Novembre, V.S. 1712.

J'AI vu, Monſieur, par la dernière lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire, & que la Vigne me rendit hier, l'impatience dans laquelle vous êtes de recevoir de nos nouvelles.

Comme je trouve cette impatience très bien fondée, je n'ai pas voulu attendre le départ de Prior, mais je vous envoie le même courier, & je le charge de la lettre ci-jointe que Matthieu vous devroit avoir remis.

Ce viſage de bois ne commencera ſon voyage que Lundi prochain, & vous ne ſerez ſurpris de ce délai, quand vous ſaurez la triſte avanture de Samedi paſſé ; l'Abbé Gaultier ne manquera pas de vous informer que le Duc d'Hamilton s'eſt battu en duel avec Monſieur de Mohun, & que tous les deux ſont reſtés ſur la place.

La Reine ne tardera pas à nommer un autre Ambaſſadeur & je me trompe fort ſi vous n'en ſoyez content.

Le Roi & le Roi d'Eſpagne ont à peu près accomplis tout ce qu'ils ont promis à l'égard du grand article pour empêcher la réunion des deux monarchies. Je l'avoue, Monſieur, & je ſerois au déſeſpoir, ſi de notre côté l'on avoit rien négligé, de tout ce qui peut contribuer à preſſer la concluſion du grand ouvrage de la paix. Vous ſavez, ſans que je vous le diſe, la nature de notre gouvernement, & le génie de notre peuple, combien de meſures nous avons à prendre, combien d'eſprits nous avons à ménager, ainſi vous ne ſerez pas ſurpris quand les réponſes que vous attendez d'ici ne viennent point avec toute l'expédition que les conjonctures paroiſſent exiger.

Pour cette fois, j'eſpère que vous vous trouverez dédommagé de notre lenteur, par cette réſolution déciſive que le Comte de Strafford eſt allé porter en Hollande.

Ce que vous marquez dans votre lettre, des intrigues qu'on prétend être tramées par le Duc de Savoye à la cour de Vienne, eſt conforme à des avis que nous avons de tems en tems reçu. Dans l'autre lettre j'ai touché les raiſons qui ont empêché la Reine d'y faire aucune attention. J'ajouterai dans celle-ci, que Meſſieurs les Miniſtres Impériaux ont affectés dans pluſieurs occaſions de faire de pareilles inſinuations, ne ſouhaitant rien de mieux que de brouiller Son Alteſſe Royal avec la Reine, & de rendre ſon accommodement avec le Roi plus difficile.

Je vous ſuis extrêmement obligé des avis que vous me donnez, touchant les menaces que font les ennemis de la paix. La Reine, j'oſe dire, pouſſe un peu trop loin cette maxime de Céſar qu'il vaut mieux mourir que de vivre dans une crainte continuelle de la mort ; mais nous autres qui avons l'honneur de la ſervir, ne négligerons rien de tout ce qui peut contribuer à mettre en ſureté une vie auſſi précieuſe que la ſienne.

Sa Majeſté a été fort fâchée de ce qui eſt arrivé en Portugal ; le Commandant des troupes l'excuſe en diſant qu'il n'a pas manqué de déclarer & d'obſerver la ſuſpenſion d'armes, d'abord qu'il a reçu ſes

ordres. Mon opinion eſt que les Portugais ont intercepté les premières lettres que le Comte de Dartmouth lui a écrit ſur ce ſujet: je ne ſais pas quel parti Monſieur de Staremberg prendra. Il eſt impoſſible qu'il puiſſe ſe ſoutenir en Catalogne, & s'il refuſe d'embarquer ſes Allemands, je crois qu'il trouvera quelque difficulté à faire ſa retraite comme Xenophon fit la ſienne.

L'Abbé Gaultier m'a mis au déſeſpoir quand il m'a dit que l'Evêque de Briſtol avoit reçu très froidement Monſieur le Duc de St. Pierre.

J'ai écrit à ce bon homme, dans les termes les plus forts, que c'étoit l'intention de la Reine qu'il fit ſes plus grands efforts, conjointement avec les Miniſtres de France, pour appuyer les intérêts du Duc; par le premier Courier je lui répéterai ces ordres d'une manière à lui fondre ſa glace.

Je ſuis trop le ſerviteur de Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont, pour ne pas prendre une part très ſenſible dans la grâce que le Roi lui fait, & je vous ſupplie de l'en aſſurer.

Il eſt tems de finir une lettre, que j'écris fort à la hâte, & que vous aurez peut-être de la peine à lire. Je ſuis avec le plus grand attachement,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

B.

En cas que l'Evêque de Tournay garde ſon évêché, nous croyons que l'Abbé Gaultier pourroit être déclaré ſon coadjuteur dès à préſent, pour les raiſons que nous avons autrefois touchées.

S'il y a des meſures à prendre de notre côté, vous n'avez qu'à me les marquer, car nous ſommes entièrement diſpoſés à lui faire plaiſir, & en effet il a bien mérité de la France & de l'Angleterre.

A Monſieur

A Monſieur de Torcy.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 26me Novembre, V.S. 1712.

QUOIQUE la mort du Duc d'Hamilton, & quelques autres incidens qui ſont ſurvenus, aient retardé le retour de Monſieur Prior en France, & cauſé des longueurs dans une affaire, qui n'en devroit ſouffrir aucune, je crois que la réſolution que la Reine vient de prendre réparera cette perte de tems, & préviendra tous les obſtacles qui pourroient encore faire trainer la concluſion de notre grande ouvrage.

Sa Majeſté a nommé le Duc de Shrewſbury pour être ſon Ambaſſadeur en France, & comme il partira d'ici ſans attendre ſes équipages, j'eſpère que dans quinze jours, à compter de la fin de cette ſemaine, il arrivera à Paris.

Je vous envoie une convention pour la prolongation de la ſuſpenſion d'armes; vous aurez la bonté d'en ſigner une copie, & de me la faire tenir au retour de ce courier.

J'ai cru que la clauſe de ratification n'étoit pas néceſſaire d'y être inſérée, ſi vous jugez autrement, vous n'avez qu'à addreſſer la ratification du Roi à l'Abbé Gaultier, & je ne manquerai pas de lui faire avoir immédiatement celle de la Reine.

La renonciation du Roi d'Eſpagne à la Couronne de France, a été faite dans les termes le plus forts, & de la manière la plus ſolennelle. Sa Majeſté ne doute pas que les renonciations du Duc de Berry & du Duc d'Orléans, ne ſoient conçues dans des termes également forts, & que tous les autres actes néceſſaires pour l'accompliſſement de ce grand article ne ſe faſſent d'une manière également ſolennelle & authentique. Mais, Monſieur, pour prendre nos meſures plus ſurement, pour prévenir le moindre méſentendu qui pourroit cauſer du

retardement

retardement dans le cours de cette affaire, la Reine m'a commandé de vous faire ſavoir, qu'elle ſouhaite d'avoir les copies des renonciations du Duc de Berry & du Duc d'Orléans à tout droit ſur la Couronne d'Eſpagne, auſſi-bien que des autres actes qui doivent être à cette occaſion faits ſelon le projet pour prévenir la réunion des deux monarchies contenu dans les articles propoſés par la Reine le 6me de Juin, V.S. & accepté par le Roi le 22me du même mois, N.S. 1712. Si je ne reçois pas ce que j'ai l'honneur de vous demander préſentement, aſſez à tems pour que Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury puiſſe, avant ſon départ, recevoir là-deſſus les derniers ordres de la Reine, je compte pourtant que s'il ne ſait pas les ſentimens de ſa Majeſté en partant de Londres, il les ſaura du moins en arrivant à Paris.

Je ſuis, Monſieur, &c.

B.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, November 28th, 1712.

THE neceſſity which my Lord Treaſurer lies under of qualifying himſelf to be Governor, and which I lie under as Director of the South Sea Company, obliges us both to be in town on Sunday, of which I thought it my duty to acquaint your Majeſty, and humbly to beg to be excuſed my attendance at Windſor.

Foreign letters we have none to trouble your Majeſty with. I diſpatched, yeſterday morning at break of day, a courier to the Court of France, with two copies of an act for prolonging the ſuſpenſion, executed by myſelf, one of which is to be returned executed by Monſieur de Torcy. This was to have been done, purſuant to your Majeſty's order, by Mr. Prior; but as it is very poſſible he may not arrive in

time, and as any interval between the expiration and renewal of the ſuſpenſion, would cauſe great confuſion, and be of very miſchievous conſequence to your Majeſty's trading ſubjects, my Lords of the Council thought proper to loſe not a moment in ſending over the convention to France, which will, by this method, be returned ſoon enough.

I have likewiſe, at my Lord Dartmouth's deſire, writ to Monſieur de Torcy, that he ſhould ſend, by the ſame courier, draughts of the renunciations to be made in France, and of the other forms which are to be paſſed in that kingdom for the complete execution of the article agreed upon to prevent the union of the two monarchies. I think this ſhould have been ſooner aſked, but hope we are ſtill in time.

Finding the merchants have not obſerved the notice formerly given about paſſes and certificates, when they ſail to the North Sea, and to the Baltic, the ſame is to be renewed in the Gazette to-morrow.

Some of your Majeſty's meſſengers whom I ſent to the coaſt, very narrowly miſſed taking Mackartney near to Ipſwich, they are ſtill in purſuit of him, and not without hopes of ſucceſs.

I am, Madam,

Your Majeſty's moſt dutiful, &c.

To the Lords Plenipotentiaries.

MY LORDS,

Whitehall, November 28th, 1712.

I MUST not omit to put your Lordſhips in mind of what I writ ſome time ago, concerning the Duke de St. Pierre, by her Majeſty's particular command. The Queen, my Lords, not only thinks the caſe of this gentleman very hard, and his demand very reaſonable,

but

but ſhe is extremely inclined, in conſideration of his relation to Monſieur de Torcy, to do him all the good offices poſſible; your Lordſhips will, therefore, pleaſe to intereſt yourſelves in this affair as in a cauſe which her Majeſty eſpouſes; and to let the Miniſters of France know, that you are inſtructed to concur with them in the moſt effectual meaſures of obtaining ſatisfaction to the Duc de St. Pierre.

I am, my Lords, &c.

I have ſent two parts executed of a convention for prolonging the ſuſpenſion to France, and expect one of them back in a few days; the prolongation is for four months; God forbid the term ſhould prove neceſſary!

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Verſailles, ce 29me Novembre, 1712.

IL vous eſt aiſé, my Lord, d'aſſurer que je ſerai content de vous, puiſque vous ſavez par expérience que vous y réuſſirez toutes les fois que vous le voudrez, & vous l'avez voulu lorſque vous avez dreſſé l'article, que vous me faites l'honneur de me communiquer des inſtructions de Monſieur le Comte de Strafford. Il eſt tel qu'il convient pour avancer une déciſion que je ne crois plus douteuſe de la part des Hollandois. L'état de leurs affaires ne leur permet plus de ſoutenir la guerre, & certainement ils ſont trop heureux qu'on leur faſſent l'honneur de les preſſer de faire la paix, dont ils ont plus de beſoin qu'aucune autre nation.

Ils ne refuſeront par les bons offices de la Reine, & je vous avoue, my Lord, qu'au milieu de l'intérêt public, je reſſens la joie particulière de voir Matthieu échappé du péril dont il étoit menacé.

J'y perds cependant une harangue qui auroit été des plus touchantes, mais j'en ſerai dédommagé par d'autres avantages.

Le Roi a été très ſenſible, Monſieur, à l'attention que vous avez eu de faire arrêter le nommé Beaulieu. Je ſaurai de Monſieur de Baville quel eſt cet homme, car il n'eſt pas connu ici, & vous ſavez mieux que perſonne, combien les projets de ces malheureux ſont ordinairement viſionnaires. Je vous ſupplie cependant, pour les raiſons que vous remarquez vous-même avec beaucoup de prudence, de vouloir bien m'avertir de ce que vous aurez découvert de ſes intrigues. Il eſt de l'intérêt réciproque de la France & de la Grande Bretagne, que rien ne trouble la tranquillité des deux royaumes, & que les particuliers qui oſeroient tenter de l'altérer, ſoient ſurement punis. Vous jugerez peut-être que je mériterois de l'être moi-même, au ſujet de l'impatience que je vous ai marquée par ma dernière lettre, & j'avoue que j'en ai été un peu honteux après avoir lu ce que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire ; mais, en vérité, my Lord, on ne peut deſirer vivement & attendre tranquillement ; & je croirois faire tort à l'ouvrage ſi j'en attendois la perfection ſans aucun mouvement de vivacité.

Je ſouhaite que Monſieur Prior vous ait rendu une compte fidelle de celle qu'on a ici pour vous, mais je doute de ſon exactitude ſur cet article. Si je ne me trompe, & ſi je le ſoupçonne mal-à-propos, il pourra, my Lord, à ſon retour ici vous informer de la préférence qu'il y a de plus admirable, lorſqu'on le compare avec vous. Ce n'eſt pas moi qui fais ces comparaiſons, car il n'y a aucun à mon ſens qui puiſſe vous convenir, comme je crois qu'il n'y a perſonne auſſi qui vous ſoit plus attaché & plus ſincèrement que je ſuis,

Monſieur, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, November 29th, 1712.

I RECEIVED laſt night a letter from Monſieur de Torcy, dated the 29th of this month, N.S. wherein there is nothing more than expreſſions of great ſatisfaction, in the orders given by your Majeſty to the Earl of Strafford; of which I had given him a ſummary account, and very great earneſtneſs ſtill ſhewn for the concluſion of the treaty.

The Dutch mail arrived this morning, and I have the honour to encloſe to your Majeſty an abſtract of the contents of the letters.

I am, Madam,

With the humbleſt reſpect,

Your Majeſty's, &c.

A Monſieur le Duc de St. Pierre.

De Whitehall, ce 2me Decembre, V.S. 1712.

EN vérité, Monſieur, le peu de ſervice que j'ai été juſques-ici en état de vous rendre, ne mérite pas l'obligation que vous me témoignez en avoir. Bien loin d'être content de ce que j'ai fait, je ne manquerai pas de prendre toutes les meſures qui dépendent de moi, pour contribuer à la réuſſite de vos prétenſions, & parmi les inſtructions les plus eſſentielles de Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Reine, ils trouveront dans chaque dépêche des ordres réitérés de ſe joindre aux Miniſtres du Roi Très Chrétienne en votre faveur. Je leur ai dit, & j'ai l'honneur de vous en aſſurer, qu'ils ne peuvent mieux faire leur cour à la Reine, qu'en appuyent vos intérêts de la manière la plus vive & la plus efficace.

Au reſte, Monſieur, ſi dans le cours de cette affaire, vous trouvez à propos de me charger de quelque nouvel ordre, je vous ſupplie de m'en écrire ſans cérêmonie, & d'être très perſuadê que le beau frère de Monſieur de Torcy a tout le droit du monde de commander abſolument celui qui a l'honneur d'être avec une véritable eſtime, & très parfaitement,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, December 1ſt, 1712.

BESIDES the foreign letters, whereof I have the honour to enclose an extract, I received this morning one from the Earl of Strafford. It is dated at the Hague, December 9th, N.S. and gives an account that he arrived on Saturday laſt at that place, that he had ſeen the Penſionary, the Preſident of the week, and the Miniſters deputed by the States-General to him; and that he had begun to execute your Majeſty's commands, by making the overtures and declarations injoined, in the terms of his inſtructions. My Lord judges that theſe meaſures are likely to have the effect which your Majeſty propoſes, and that the Dutch will ſincerely endeavour to finiſh within three weeks, which time he mentioned as ſufficient for them to take their reſolution in.

Count Sinzendorf, had likewiſe been with my Lord Strafford, and appeared much more eaſy than he expected to have found him.

Mr. Prior is this morning actually ſet out on his journey, and I hope fully inſtructed, at leaſt, none of thoſe little lights I could give him are wanting.

The

The Abbé Gaultier brought me juſt now a letter from the Marquis de Monteleon *, and there is another for the Earl of Dartmouth, this Miniſter is at Dover, and deſigns to arrive at London about noon on Thurſday; by this particular account of his route, I cannot help thinking he expects ſome compliment at his arrival. I have ventured, therefore, to inſinuate to my Lord Dartmouth by Mr. Lewis, that it might be proper to do by him as Monſieur de Torcy did by me, to ſend a ſervant to meet him, and as ſoon as he comes to his lodging to ſee him, and perhaps, ſince he comes at that hour, to entertain him at dinner.

The Hanoverian Envoy, Baron Grote, reſolved to come over in the Yatch which carried my Lord Strafford, ſo that I expect every hour to hear of him. I am glad to find my Lord Privy Seal, has a good opinion of him.

I have no letter from Mr. Scot, but believe he has at laſt been able to meet King Auguſtus, and hope the meſſenger will return with his letters ſome day this week.

I am, Madam, your Majeſty's, &c.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, December the 2d, 1712.

SOON after I had ſent away the letter which I did myſelf the honour yeſterday to write to your Majeſty, I received one from Prince Ragotſky, dated at Hull, and under the borrowed name of Count de Saaros. He is come to that port in a ſhip bound from Dantzick, and I find that the hints which Mr. Scot gave, according to your Majeſty's order, have hindered him from any thoughts of pay-

* Appointed Ambaſſador from the Court of Spain.

ing his reſpects to your Majeſty *. I am this moment putting in execution the commands which ſome months ago your Majeſty gave me, and hiring the ſame ſhip, or any other, to carry him to the coaſt of France; though the rules for obſervation of the quarantine, occaſion ſome difficulty herein.

I was unwilling, without great reaſon to believe the report true, to mention the plague's being got to Preſburg, in Hungary, and the ſhutting up ſome houſes in Vienna, but I fear there can be no room to doubt of the certainty of this bad news. The Emperor, the Empreſs Dowager, and the Archducheſſes, are removing to Prague, and other places.

I have mentioned to my Lord Treaſurer, what I took the liberty to mention to your Majeſty about the reception of the Marquis de Monteleon, and my Lord thinks it ſhould by no means be omitted; the rather, becauſe, your Majeſty's intereſt in point of commerce, depends on the keeping up that good humour which the Spaniards ſeem now to be in. I believe my Lord Treaſurer will write to my Lord Dartmouth, if he is not in London, on this ſubject.

Brigadier Durell is dead at Dunkirk, by which means that regiment which Mr. Hamilton has been ſo often wounded at the head of †, and which was taken from him to be given to young Godfrey, of whom Durell bought it, is become vacant.

I incloſe a Licence in Blank for the ſhip which muſt carry the Prince Ragotſky, and ſome other Paſſes and Licences, for which the proper certificates have been produced.

And am, with the humbleſt reſpect,

Madam, &c.

* Probably a fear of offending the Court of Vienna. † At Blenheim, and Schellenburgh.

De

A Monſieur le Comte de Saaros.*

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 3me Décembre, 1712.

J'AI reçu Lundi paſſé l'honneur de votre lettre du 9me de ce mois, N.S. du port de Hull, & la Reine étant encore au Château de Windſor, je n'ai pu vous répondre plutôt qu'aujourd'hui. Je dépêche ce ſoir les ordres de ſa Majeſté, tant au port de Hull qu'à celui de Harwich, pour vous faire trouver un bâtiment qui puiſſe vous tranſporter en France, ſans aucun délai, en cas que le Capitaine du vaiſſeau, ſur lequel vous êtes venu de Dantzick, ne ſoit pas content de faire ce petit voyage; de plus le Sieur Roſenau étant parti d'ici il y a quelque tems, je vous renvoye la lettre que vous m'avez addreſſé pour lui.

Je vous ſouhaite, Monſieur, un heureux paſſage, & je vous ſupplie de croire que je ſuis, très parfaitement,

Monſieur, &c.

* In this age of great characters and memorable events, perhaps thoſe of the Ragotſki family are not the leaſt remarkable. George Ragotſki, the father, Prince of Tranſylvania, aſpired to the throne of Poland, and was oppoſed by the Turkiſh army, headed by the Grand Vizier. With comparatively a handful of men, Ragotſki defeated the Turks, but his army leſſening, being unaſſiſted by any power in Europe, he was forced to give way, and his affairs declined; a peace was propoſed, which the Turk rejected without the head of Ragotſki; driven to deſpair, he attacked the Vizier's grand army with his few followers, and fell in the field of battle, in 1660. His widow married Count Tekeley, a Hungarian, and that country being oppreſſed and enſlaved by the Auſtrian government, revolted, and Tekeley headed the inſurgents with various ſucceſs, till he was forced to take refuge in Turkey, where he died. During this conteſt, the widow of Ragotſki defended the caſtle of Montgatz, for her huſband, with the bravery of a heroine, though at laſt ſhe was forced to ſurrender, and one condition was, that her children by Ragotſki, ſhould be ſent to Vienna, to be educated by the Emperor. She then followed her huſband to Turkey, where, after his death, the penſion of the Ottoman Court was withdrawn, and ſhe was reduced to become a vender of wine in an obſcure village, in Bulgaria, where ſhe died in 1703. Her ſon, Prince Ragotſki (to whom this letter is addreſſed) though educated in, and habituated to, the principles of Auſtrian government, upon his return to Hungary, could not look upon the wretched and oppreſſed ſtate of his native country with the eye of indifference The Hungarians revolted, and choſe Ragotſki their general, who with diverſified fortune, ſometimes carrying fire and ſword to the walls of Vienna, and at others forced to retreat to the wilds of Hungary, kept up a conteſt of doubtful iſſue till 1711 The Hungarians then, as much tired of the conteſt as the Emperor, agreed to terms propoſed by the latter; but theſe articles being either unequal to Ragotſki's ambition, or in his judgment not ſufficient for the ſecurity and welfare of his country, he left Hungary, and is at the time of this letter retiring to the Court of France.

A Monſeigneur le Duc de Savoye.

MONSEIGNEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 4me Décembre, V.S. 1712.

JE ſuis, je l'avoue, au comble de mes ſouhaits, puiſque votre Alteſſe Royale a daignée témoigner qu'elle eſt contente de ma conduite, & l'honneur qu'elle vient de me faire par ſa lettre du 16me du mois d'Octobre, que Monſieur de Mellarede m'a rendu, rempliroit une ambition beaucoup plus démeſurée que la mienne ; la meilleure manière dont je pourrai répondre à tant de grâce & tant de bonté, ſera de continuer avec le même zèle qui m'a toujours animé à travailler pour les intérêts du Prince du monde qui mérite le plus à régner.

Votre Alteſſe Royale ſera ſans doute informé, par le rapport de ſon Miniſtre, combien la Reine eſt diſpoſée à lui faire réuſſir toutes ſes prétenſions.

Il n'y a pas, que je ſâche, un ſeule propoſition, dans toutes les repréſentations de Monſieur de Mallarede, à laquelle ſa Majeſté n'ait conſenti ; & j'ai l'honneur d'aſſurer votre Alteſſe Royale, que les inſtructions tant de Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires que du Duc de Shrewſbury, qui doit aller en peu de jours à la Cour de France, ſont conformes à ce qu'elle ſouhaite, & dreſſées même ſur les mémoires de ſes Miniſtres.

Je ne dois pas finir cette lettre, ſans marquer à votre Alteſſe Royale la vive reconnoiſſance dont je ſuis pénétrée de ce qu'elle a bien voulu à ma prière, accorder l'Abbaye d'Abondance à Monſieur l'Abbé de Tencin.

Comme les obligations que je vous dois, Monſeigneur, ſont au-deſſus de toute expreſſion, je me bornerai à aſſurer votre Alteſſe Royale que mon attachement très reſpectueux ne finira qu'avec ma vie, & que

parmi

parmi ceux qui ont le bonheur d'être ſes ſujets, il n'y a perſonne qui lui ſoit plus dévoué que,

Monſeigneur, de votre Alteſſe Royale

Le très humble, très fidelle,

Et très obeiſſant ſerviteur.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Verſailles, le 10me Décembre, 1712.

APRES vous avoir fatigué, Monſieur, d'une de mes lettres, je réponds à celle que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire de votre main, & que j'ai reçu par La Vigne. Vous me faites beaucoup de plaiſir d'approuver mon impatience ; il m'eut été impoſſible de m'en corriger, quand même vous l'auriez condamnée, & je ſerois bien fâché de conſerver un défaut que vous me reprocheriez.

Un de ceux de la nation Françoiſe eſt d'être vive & impatiente, & quand les réponſes ſur une affaire auſſi importante que celle de la paix tardent au gré du public, il s'élève de voix ſans nombre contre ceux qu'il croit avoir part à la conduire. Quelquefois auſſi l'intérêt particulier appuye le cenſure du public, & je vous aſſure, qu'il y a des momens où le Stoicien le plus parfait auroit peine à garder ſa tranquillité. Enfin, my Lord, ſi nous ne ſommes pas obligés ici à ménager les eſprits, nous trouvons au moins, & nous éprouvons tous les jours, que malgré la différence des nations, tous les hommes ſe reſſemblent fort dans leur manière de penſer. Continuez donc, je vous ſupplie, à ne pas condamner l'impatience que je vous fait paroître, quoique je ſois convaincu que vous ne perdez pas un moment à mettre la dernière main à l'ouvrage : ſans vos ſoins il ne ſeroit pas en l'état où nous le voyons.

J'eſpère que le Comte de Strafford diſſipera toutes les intrigues formées pour en empêcher la concluſion, & qu'enfin il amortera l'eſprit guerrier qui règne en Hollande. Il paroît qu'on s'y flattoit encore de retenir Monſieur le Duc de Savoye dans les intérêts de la Maiſon d'Autriche. On lui promettoit des offices puiſſans & ſûrs pour faire épouſer au Prince de Piémont l'aînée des Archiducheſſes, & comme le langage change ſuivant les conjonctures, on prétend que Monſieur le Penſionnaire ſe feroit fort que la propoſition ſeroit appuyée par la France & par la Grande Bretagne. Vous m'aſſurez, Monſieur, qu'il n'y a pas lieu de faire attention à de pareils projets, ainſi je ſuis perſuadé que Monſieur le Duc de Savoye eſt trop éclairé pour ajouter foi aux inſinuations des Miniſtres Impériaux ſoutenues même de celles des Hollandois, & pour s'expoſer à perdre le fruit de tout ce que la Reine a fait pour lui.

Vous ſavez, Monſieur, quelle eſt la voix de retraite que la Cour de Vienne prépare à Monſieur de Staremberg, & que regardant vos vaiſſeaux à peu près comme le Roi de Perſe, on veut qu'il s'embarque, lui & ſes dix-mille, ſur les frégates que Monſieur Heimes fait équiper à Amſterdam. On menace déjà Monſieur le Duc de Savoye du ſéjour que ces troupes, tranſportées de Catalogne en Italie, feront dans le Milanés.

Il eſt en vérité de l'intérêt public, de la juſtice, & du bien de la paix, que le Roi, de concert avec la Reine, prennent enſemble des meſures pour tirer les Princes de l'Italie de l'oppreſſion où les Allemands les tiennent. A la vérité, la conduite de ces Princes ne mérite pas de grands égards de la part de la France, mais il faut avoir compaſſion de leur foibleſſe, & les préſerver de l'avidité de ceux qui veulent tout dévorer.

Il fait de tems ſi fâcheux que je ſerai en peine de Matthieu, juſqu'à ce que je le voie ; puiſqu'il ne doit pas être pendu, je ſeroit bien fâché

qu'il

qu'il fut noyé; quand ſon Excellence ſera ici, on attendra plus tranquillement l'Ambaſſadeur que vous ſubſtituerez au Duc d'Hamilton. La mort de ce dernier eſt bien malheureuſe; & c'eſt un grand avantage pour un royaume, que de pouvoir en bannir la fureur de ces combats où périſſent ceux qui peuvent quelquefois ſervir très utilement l'état.

Je compte que vous aurez inceſſamment à Londres le Marquis de Montéleon; je l'ai preſſé de s'y rendre, parce que j'eſpère que vous pourrez aplanir avec lui les difficultés que my Lord Lexington trouvera à traiter avec les Eſpagnols. La diligence n'eſt pas le caractère de la nation, & ſouvent l'ignorance augmente encore ſa lenteur naturelle. Montéleon a de l'eſprit & de bonnes intentions, & j'eſpère que vous trouverez qu'il facilitera tout ce qui aura pu faire quelque peine à Madrid. Il me reſte à vous remercier, my Lord, de l'article de votre lettre qui regarde le Duc de St. Pierre; quoique je ſois très ſenſible à ſes intérêts, j'avoue que je le ſuis encore d'avantage à cette marque de l'honneur de votre amitié, & que rien ne me toucheroit d'avantage que de pouvoir vous témoigner à quel point je reſſens la nouvelle preuve que vous voulez bien m'en donner. La continuation de vos bons offices ſera très néceſſaire à Monſieur de St. Pierre, & pour vous informer plus particulièrement de ſes juſtes demandes, permettez-moi, my Lord, de vous en envoyer un mémoire imprimé que je reçois de lui.

Je me ſuis acquitté de vos ordres à l'égard de Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont, & je lui ai lu l'article de votre lettre qui le regarde. Il aura bientôt le plaiſir de vous remercier lui-même de l'intérêt que vous avez pris à la grâce que le Roi a voulu lui faire avant ſont départ.

Pour moi, Monſieur, je trouverai autant de charmes au viſage de bois qu'a Madame de Parabeſe, quand j'apprendrai par lui de vos nouvelles. Je n'aurois peut-être pas oſé me ſervir de cette honorable epithète, ſi je ne le croyois préſentement en déçà de la mer, & par

conſéquent

conſéquent hors d'état de ma lettre. Je ne voudrois pas qu'il eut aucune reproche à me faire à ſon arrivée, car il trouveroit le moyen de s'en venger. Je ſuis, avec un attachement, &c.

DE TORCY.

J'écrivis, il y a quelques jours, à l'Abbé, ce que je penſois ſur la fantaiſie qui lui eſt venu d'être evêque. Les hommes demandent ſouvent à Dieu ce qui ſeroit leur perte, & il rejette les vœux de ceux qu'il aime. Il ne faut pas que celui qui a tant travaillé au repos public, ſoit mis dans une place où il ſeroit tourmenté toute ſa vie. Et en verité, my Lord, ce que les amis de l'Abbé Gaultier doivent ſouhaiter & demander pour lui, eſt une bonne abbaye dont il puiſſe à ſon aiſe toucher & manger les revenus, ſans être obligé de s'embarraſſer des ſoins d'un diocèſe tel principalement que celui de Tournay, où il auroit a ménager différentes puiſſances, & être toujours expoſé à des embarras ſans nombre & ſans fin. Le Roi eſt très-bien diſpoſé en ſa faveur, & certainement une abbaye conſidérable le lui manquera bien.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Verſailles, ce 11me Decembre, 1712.

JE reçois, Monſieur, avec beaucoup de plaiſir, les aſſurances que vous me donnez par votre lettre du 21me Novembre...2me Decembre, d'une prochaine concluſion de la paix. Quand je ne ſerois pas ainſi diſpoſé que je le ſuis à vous croire, il ne ſeroit pas permis, ce me ſemble, de douter du ſuccés d'une négociation dont le Roi & la Reine de la Grande Bretagne preſſent également la fin par les moyens les plus capables de l'avancer.

J'eſpère

J'eſpère donc, Monſieur, que les premières nouvelles d'Hollande, après l'arrivée de Monſieur le Comte de Strafford, apprendront que les Hollandois auront enfin cédé à la fermité de ſa Majeſté Britannique, & ſi la cabale des guerriers engageoit cette République à prendre une autre parti, rien ne ſeroit plus capable de ramener enfin les Hollandois à la raiſon, & à leurs véritables intérêts, que la réſolution que la Reine a priſe de ſigner un traité particulier avec le Roi & avec le Roi d'Eſpagne où ſeroient admis ceux des alliés de ſa Majeſté Britannique qui voudroient y entrer.

Vous avez raiſon, Monſieur, à croire que le Roi eſt content de cette réſolution, & vous avez vu depuis le commencement de la négociation que ſa Majeſté a toujours agi comme perſuadé que les effets répondroient ainſi qu'ils ont répondu, parfaitement à la confiance entière qu'elle a témoignée à ſa Majeſté Britannique.

C'eſt avec plaiſir, Monſieur, que le Roi a vu ce que vous m'annoncez en général des ordres que Monſieur Prior doit avoir au ſujet des intérêts de Monſieur l'Electeur de Bavière. La Reine de la Grande Bretagne a tant fait pour Monſeigneur le Duc de Savoye, qu'elle peut aiſément comprendre par elle-même à quel point ſa Majeſté s'intéreſſe à l'état de l'Electeur, & à lui procurer un dédommagement de ſes pertes. Permettez-moi, Monſieur, de ne pas convenir entièrement de ce que vous marquez à cette occaſion au ſujet de Tournay, car il eſt vrai, & je puis vous en aſſurer, que le Roi lui auroit volontiers cédé cette place pour augmenter ſon dédommagement. Si Monſieur le Duc de Savoye borne ſes prétenſions aux offres que le Roi lui a faits, toutes les difficultés ſur la barrière que ce Prince demande du côté de la France ſont aplanies, car il ne reſte plus que la liberté qu'il ſouhaite avoir de fortifier; & ſa Majeſté veut bien la lui accorder, à la conſidération de la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, pourvu qu'il s'engage en même-tems à s'en tenir au traité de Turin de 1696, ſur l'article de Pignerole, & à laiſſer cette place enfermée d'une ſimple muraille, ſans pouvoir en reléver les fortifications.

Mais vous me remettez, Monſieur, à ce que Monſieur Prior eſt chargé de dire ſur l'article de Monſieur le Duc de Savoye, ainſi je l'attends pour en parler, auſſi-bien que pour convenir avec lui des deux difficultés que vous trouvez encore dans les projets de traités dreſſés à Utrecht. J'eſpère qu'il arrivera ſi bien inſtruit des intentions de la Reine, que l'on conviendra facilement des expédiens à prendre pour établir inceſſamment l'union parfaite entre les Plénipotentiaires du Roi, & ceux de la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, aux conférences d'Utrecht.

Ainſi, Monſieur, vous aurez le plaiſir de voir votre jugement confirmé, & de nous trouver bientôt au jour de la concluſion d'une bonne paix qui doit faire le bonheur de tant de peuples.

Comme il faut en attendant éviter avec ſoin que ceux qui depuis quatre mois ne ſe regardent plus comme ennemis, ne recommencent entr'eux des actes d'hoſtilités, le Roi juge qu'il n'y a pas un moment de tems à perdre à faire publier ſon ordonnance pour la prolongation de la ſuſpenſion d'armes, qui expire, comme vous le ſavez, Monſieur, le 22me de ce mois. Je vous envoie le projet de cette ordonnance, & je puis encore recevoir votre réponſe par le courier que je vous dépêche, avant que le terme ſoit expiré. Je vous ſupplie donc de me faire ſavoir, ſi ce projet ſera conforme aux ſentimens de la Reine, & ſa Majeſté Britannique fera faire de ſon côté une ſemblable proclamation. Il faudroit dans les règles qu'elle fut précédée d'une convention ſignée au nom & en vertu des pouvoirs du Roi & de ceux de la Reine de la Grande Bretagne. Si Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont étoit préſentement à Londres, il pourroit, Monſieur, ſigner cette convention avec vous, ou bien je la ſignerois avec Monſieur Prior, s'il étoit ici ; mais l'ordonnance & la proclamation ſuppoſeront la choſe faite, & l'eſſentiel eſt de faire connoître la volonté du Roi & celle de la Reine, ſur la continuation de la ſuſpenſion.

On peut encore faire ſigner à Utrecht, par Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires, la continuation de la ſuſpenſion juſqu'à la paix. Le Roi l'ordonner

aux

aux ſiens & la choſe ſera bientôt conclue, ſi ceux de la Reine de la Grande Bretagne ont les mêmes ordres. Pour évitér cependant tout inconvénient par mer, le Roi fait écrire dans les ports, que la ſuſpenſion ſera prolongée. Voilà, Monſieur, toutes les précautions que l'on peut prendre.

Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont a pris congé du Roi, il partira de Paris Jeudi prochain, & comme il eſpère que la Reine voudra bien lui envoyer un de ſes yatchs à Calais, il vous dépêchera un courier pour vous informer préciſément, Monſieur, du jour qu'il pourra s'y rendre.

Le Roi a été bien fâché d'apprendre la malheureuſe avanture du Duc d'Hamilton: on nomme encore incertainement celui qui doit venir ici en ſa place, mais ſa Majeſté eſt bien perſuadée qu'un ſujet nommé par la Reine n'aura rien de plus à cœur, que de fortifier l'intelligence & l'union qu'une bonne paix doit bientôt rétablir.

Je vous ſupplie de croire que je ſuis,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

MONSIEUR,

A Verſailles, le 14me Décembre, 1712.

J'AI reçu par un courier exprès la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur dé m'écrire le 26me Novembre ... 7me Décembre, avec l'acte double ſigne de vous, que vous m'avez envoyé, pour prolonger pendant quatre mois encore la ſuſpenſion d'armes. Je l'ai ſigné par ordre du Roi, & ſa Majeſté m'a commandé de vous renvoyer un des doubles, comme je le fais, Monſieur, par le même courier. La publication ſervira de ratification, ainſi je crois qu'il eſt inutile d'en expédier de part & d'autre. J'eſpère auſſi qu'une bonne paix fera bientôt ceſſer la néceſſité de ces derniers actes, & comme Monſieur le Comte de Strafford eſt arrivé à Utrecht, il n'y a pas

lieu de douter qu'on ne voie inceſſamment l'effet des déclarations, qu'il aura faites par ordre de la Reine.

Je vous envoie, comme vous le ſouhaitez, les copies des renonciations faites à la couronne d'Eſpagne, par Monſeigneur le Duc de Berry, & par Monſeigneur le Duc d'Orléans. Les modèles en ont été dreſſés à Madrid, & comme ils avoient été communiqués à Monſieur le Comte de Lexington, je ne doutois pas, Monſieur, qu'il ne les eut envoyés à ſa Majeſté Britannique. Vous trouverez que les termes n'en ſont pas moins forts que ceux de la renonciation du Roi d'Eſpagne, & que les mêmes expreſſions ont été employées dans les endroits où elles étoient néceſſaires.

Le ſeul acte qui reſte à faire eſt celui des lettres patentes que le Roi enverra dans ſes Parlemens, pour y faire enrégîtrer la renonciation du Roi d'Eſpagne. Comme il a paru néceſſaire d'attendre qu'il y eut ici quelqu'un de la part de la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, avant que d'expédier ces lettres, je ne manquerai pas de vous en envoyer auſſi la copie, auſſitôt que Monſieur Prior ſera arrivé, s'il précède, comme je le crois, l'arrivée de Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury.

La Reine ne pouvoit faire choix d'un Ambaſſadeur plus diſtingué par ſon rang & par ſes qualités perſonelles, & cette nomination a été d'autant plus agréable au Roi que ſa Majeſté ſait qu'il a une parfaite connoiſſance de tout ce qui s'eſt paſſé pendant le cours de la négociation, dont j'eſpère que nous verrons bientôt le parfait accompliſſement.

Je vous ſupplie de croire, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Monſieur

A Monſieur de Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce 13me Décembre, V.S. 1712.

LE courier de l'Abbé Gaultier m'ayant apporté l'acte pour la prolongation de la ſuſpenſion d'armes, elle a été, Monſieur, ſans perte de tems, publiée ſelon nos formes, par ordre de la Reine dans ſon conſeil.

Matthieu ſera préſentement arrivé auprès de vous, le Duc de Shrewſbury s'embarque demain, & l'Abbé Gaultier ſe donne l'honneur de vous écrire ſur deux articles que vous touchez dans une de vos lettres, & qui demandent de l'éclairciſſement; ainſi, Monſieur, je ſerois fort déraiſonnable ſi j'abuſois de votre patience par la longueur de celle-ci.

Le Marquis de Monteleon répond aſſurement au caractère que vous m'avez donné de lui, il paroît diſpoſé à éviter des longueurs qui dans la conjoncture préſente ſont dangereuſes. J'eſpère que dans peu de jours nous recevrons des lettres du commiſſaire que la Reine a envoyé il y a quelque tems, pour expliquer, avec les Miniſters du Roi d'Eſpagne, de certains articles qui regardent le commerce; & je ſuis perſuadé que dans deux conférences avec le Duc de Shrewſbury vous leverez tous les autres obſtacles à la concluſion de la paix, qui, grâces à Dieu! ſont en très petit nombre, & ne ſont pas de la dernière conſéquence.

Je me ſuis donné l'honneur d'écrire à Monſieur le Duc de St. Pierre, & je me flatte que vous êtes perſuadé, Monſieur, que je ne négligerai rien de tout ce qui dépend de moi pour l'avancement de ſes intérêts; il ſuffit qu'il vous appartienne pour que je ſois dévoué à ſon ſervice.

Je vous avoue, Monſieur, que je ſuis entièrement de votre opinion à l'égard de l'Abbé Gaultier, qui eſt fort heureux d'avoir un patron tel que vous l'êtes.

Parmi toute la joie qu'un honnête homme doit ſentir à l'approche de la paix, j'ai la mortification de conſidérer que j'aurai rarement le prétexte de vous écrire ; ne m'oubliez pourtant pas, Monſieur, mais conſervez quelque amitié pour un homme qui a pour vous la plus haute eſtime, & l'amité la plus tendre, & qui ſera toute ſa vie,

Votre, &c.

B.

A Monſieur De Torcy.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 16me Décembre, V.S. 1712.

LE Baron de Walef* perſiſtant dans ſon deſſein de vouloir paſſer en France, je n'ai pu me diſpenſer de vous écrire cette lettre, & de vous aſſurer que c'eſt un officier d'un mérite diſtingué.

J'ajouterai qu'il eſt beaucoup de mes amis, & que je ſerois ravi de ſavoir qu'il étoit aſſez heureux de vous avoir pour ſon protecteur.

Je ſuis, &c.

B.

* Walef commanded the dragoons of Liege, in Flanders, in the Queen's pay. Upon the ſeparation of the Britiſh forces from the combined army, Walef was ſingular in following the Duke of Ormond, for the reſt of our mercenaries followed Eugene; this conduct probably offended his maſter, and he was now on his way to France, to ſolicit a command under Louis XIV.

From

From Mr. Prior *.

MY LORD,

Verſailles, December 17-28, 1712.

I ARRIVED at Paris the 7-18th, Sunday, having gone the day before about four leagues out of my way to meet the Duke d'Aumont, who was then on his way to England; I thought my ſo doing ſhowed reſpect to a man of his quality, and I hope the converſation I had with him may ſet him right, as to ſome company that may probably offer themſelves to him upon his arrival at London.

I went on Monday to Verſailles, and immediately found a gentleman with a compliment from Monſieur de Torcy, how much he longed to ſee me, &c. which as ſoon as he did, he fell upon the topic of Tournay, and the Elector of Bavaria; he will not allow that Prince's intereſt to be ſufficiently ſecured, ſince he is only to have a temporary and conditional proviſion allowed to him, in thoſe provinces of which the States are in the mean time to be the real maſters; who, notwithſtanding what is now ſtipulated for him, may turn him out at their pleaſure, except ſome guaranty is formed in his behalf to put it out of their power, as it may be in their will, to hurt him; not but that, all this while, the Court of France is very well pleaſed with what the Queen has done, but that they wiſh ſhe would do more, and that ſome farther temperament may eaſily be found to ſecure the States-General from any apprehenſions they may lie under, from the Elector's being too near them, and ſkreen that Prince's honour a little from being, as Monſieur de Torcy calls it, under Dutch guards †.

I need not tell your arguments, for I had them from you, my Lord, which I uſed to Monſieur de Torcy upon this occaſion; in ſhort, the whole

* This letter was printed in Lord Hardwicke's Collection.

† The Elector of Bavaria was to be Governor of Flanders, where the towns were garriſoned by the Dutch.

matter lies ſo, that the peace may go on upon it, which is the point we ſought, and the Queen may do more for this Prince, as her intereſt and generoſity perſuade; Count Monoſtrole * ſaw Monſieur de Torcy the ſame night, paid me a viſit the next morning, and expreſſed in the civileſt terms imaginable the great obligations his Maſter has to her Majeſty, but ſtill inſiſting, that ſhe is the arbitreſs of Europe, and may, as ſhe pleaſes, relieve a Prince who will have an eternal ſenſe of her goodneſs: Monoſtrole went the ſame day to Compeigne, to the Elector, and you will hear more of him yet before I cloſe my letter.

The next morning I had an audience of the King, in which I repeated to him (according to my inſtructions) the deſire her Majeſty had, that the negociation, which had been too long obſtructed, ſhould be brought to a ſpeedy concluſion; and that her Majeſty had given ſuch orders to her Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, as might moſt effectually oblige the States-General without delay, to enter into her meaſures, and ſuch as might at the ſame time moſt properly conduce to favour the Elector of Bavaria's intereſt as his Majeſty deſired. He interrupted me, and ſaid, he hoped the giving up Tournay would have that effect, and that her Majeſty could not oblige him more in any thing; that he deſired as much as poſſible the concluſion of the peace, and a good correſpondence between the nations, and did, and would do all he could to obtain it, of which he ſaid I ſhould aſſure her Majeſty, and return his thanks to her for the letter *qu'elle a eu la bonté de m'écrire.*

I went on to ſay, there remained between their Majeſties, ſome bounds in North America to be regulated, and ſome general points to be ſettled, upon which a treaty of commerce might be founded; he anſwered, that his Miniſters had received his full orders upon thoſe heads; as to what I added, that her Majeſty had named the Duke of Shrewſbury her Ambaſſador for France, he anſwered, that the Queen

* The Bavarian Envoy.

had

had done him a great pleaſure in naming a perſon of the merit and quality of that Lord.

I have gone over the other points of my inſtructions with Monſieur de Torcy, as to the difficulties from Madrid, concerning the tenure of Sicily, and its remaining any way feudatory to Spain.

I have for anſwer, that the Moſt Chriſtian King underſtands that the ceſſion of that kingdom is agreed, and ſhall be executed in the ſenſe in which her Majeſty has underſtood it, and to be clogged with no other reſtriction than that of its being neither alienated nor changed without the conſent of Spain, and that the Marquis de Monteleon has full powers from King Philip, to declare himſelf upon that point to her Majeſty's ſatisfaction; of this, I believe, your Lordſhip will be ſatisfied before you receive my letter, for I met the Marquis de Monteleon near Dover, and he told me the ſubſtance of what I now write to you.

As to the barrier inſiſted upon by the Duke of Savoy, Monſieur de Torcy refers me to his laſt letter to your Lordſhip, in which he plainly ſays, that the whole affair is adjuſted as much as ever it will be; that his Royal Highneſs has liberty to fortify his frontier, upon the private aſſurance given that he will not fortify Pignerol; that he has more on the ſide of France than he has had for 140 years paſt, and that what he now aſks is the ancient domain of the Crown; that he has more reaſon to be ſatisfied than any Prince in the war, and that the King hopes he will not fatigue the Queen any farther, after her having obtained ſuch vaſt acquiſitions for him.

The Cardinal de Tremouille writes from Rome to this Court, that 1500 Germans are ready to embark at Naples, in pretence for Sardinia, but in reality for Sicily; this is a matter which nearly regards the Duke of Savoy, and is worth our immediate notice; the moſt expeditious

way

way of ſending any orders hereupon to our fleet, your Lordſhip knows, will be through this kingdom to Genoa.

As to the intereſts of the Duke of Lorrain which I told Monſieur de Torcy the Queen had ordered me to mention here, as ſhe had inſtructed her Plenipotentiaries to ſuſtain them at Utrecht, I have as favourable an anſwer as I could hope; I ſend your Lordſhip incloſed the memorial I gave, and the anſwer (1); I ſhall impart it to the Miniſter of that Prince here, that he may plead the particularities of his Maſter's pretenſions.

I come to our own point, ſo long diſcuſſed and ſo very much embroiled; I mean that of Newfoundland.

The project of a treaty with France, which I brought over, was received from the Plenipotentiaries the 8th April, 1712, as I find upon the indorſement; Monſieur de Torcy ſhows me another plan, entitled, *Projet propoſé par l'Angleterre*, received from their Plenipotentiaries the 8th Auguſt, 1712. I ſend your Lordſhip a tranſcript of the different articles of theſe two projects (2 & 3) relating to Newfoundland,

(1) " *Réponſe de Monſieur de Torcy.*

" Le Roi rendra à Monſieur le Duc de Lorraine les lieux dont ſa Majeſté s'eſt miſe en poſſeſſion, par convenance, & pour la ſureté de la frontière de ſon royaume, pendant la préſente guerre.

" Sa Majeſté exécutera les conditions du traité de Ryſwick qui regardent ce Prince.

" Il peut faire donner les mémoires au Roi par ſon Envoye ici, ou bien aux Plénipotentiaires de ſa Majeſté à Utrecht."

" A Verſailles, ce 28me Décembre, 1712."

" *Le Duc de Lorraine a repréſenté à la Reine de la Grande Bretagne,*

" Qu'il eſt en droit de rentrer dans les lieux & places de Lorraine que la France a occupées à l'occaſion de cette préſente guerre, pour ſa convenance particulière; comme auſſi,

" De recouvrir la poſſeſſion des places qui doivent lui être rendues par le traité de Ryſwick.

" Les particularités des prétentions de Monſeigneur le Duc de Lorraine doivent être ajuſtées aux conférences générales à Utrecht; ſa Majeſté de la Grande Bretagne s'attend en même-tems que les Plénipotentiaires de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne ſoient pourvus des ordres favorables aux juſtes demandes de ce Prince, c'eſt ce qu'elle a lieu d'eſpérer de l'équité & de la généroſité de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne."

(2) " *Project of a treaty with France, received from the Plenipotentiaries, in letter, 8th April, 1712.*

" Art. 11. Dominus Rex Chriſtianiſſimus eodem quo pacis præſentis rati-habitiones commutabuntur die, Dom. Reg. Mag. Brit. Literas, Tabulaſve ſolennes, & authenticas tradendas curabit, quarum

land, as likewiſe an extract of ſome letters (4 & 5) from our Plenipotentiaries to your Lordſhip, and amongſt your's I preſume you will find

quarum vigore inſulam St. Chriſtophori, ut & inſulam Terræ Novæ, una cum Placentia urbe, & fortalitio cœteriſque *inſulis mari circumfluo ſitis* * Acadiam pariter, ut & Portus Regij Urbem, aliàs Annapolin Regiam dictam, cæteraque omnia in iſtis regionibus, quæ ab iiſdam terris, & inſulis pendent, unâ cum earundem Inſularum, terrarum, & locorum dominio, proprietate, poſſeſſione, & quocunque jure, ſive per pacta, ſive alio modo quæſito, quod Rex Chriſt. corona Galliæ aut ejuſdem ſubditi quicunque ad dictas inſulas hactenus habuerunt aut habere ſe exiſtimârunt, Reginæ Magnæ Brit. ejuſdemque coronæ in perpetuum cedi conſtabit & transferri, idque tam amplis modo & formâ, ut Regis Chriſt. ſubditis prohibitum in poſterum ſit, in dictis inſulis & terris adjacentibus loca aliqua munire aut etiam ſedem figere, aut in earundem maribus, ſinubus aliiſve locis piſcaturam exercere †.

(3) " *Projet propoſé par l'Angleterre, reçu des Plénipotentiaires le 8me d'Août*, 1712.

" Art. 12. Quandoquidem inſula Terræ Novæ, unà cum parvulis eidem proximè adjacentibus inſulis, quotquot ibidem exiſtunt, per coronam Magnæ Britanniæ poſſeſſa olim fuerunt, prout nunc temporis maximâ ex parte poſſidentur; conventum igitur eſt quod eadem inſula de Terra Novâ, unâ cum prædictis parvulis inſulis eidem adjacentibus, juris Britannici in poſterum omnino erit. Eumque in finem Placentia urbs & Fortalitium, unâ cum tormentis & apparatu bellico ibidem exiſtentibus, per Regem Chriſt. commiſſionem eâ in parte a Regina Magnæ Britanniæ habentibus intra menſes a commutatis hujus tractatus rectihabitionem tabulis, aux citius ſi fieri poteſt, cedentur & tradentur, neque aliquid juris ad dictam inſulam aut inſulas, ullamve illius aut earundem partem, Rex Chriſt. hæredes ejus aut ſucceſſores aut ſubditi aliqui Gallici, ullo de hinc tempore in poſterum ſibi vindicabunt. Piſcatura autem circa dictam inſulam & libertas ibidem piſces exſiccandi ita ſtatuatur, ut alibi quam in regione dictæ inſulæ vulgo le Petit Nord, iſtâ libertate ſubditi Gallici uti & gaudere non debeant. Ad majorem hujus articuli illuſtrationem conventum eſt quod inſula Cap Breton dicta Gallici juris in poſterum erit unà cum facultate locum aliquem in eâdem inſulâ pro lubitu muniendi. Conventum ſimiliter erit quod jus piſcaturæ, piſceſque in terras ſiccandi, quo Galli in maribus, ut & inſula de Terra Novâ olim & hactenus gaviſi ſunt iiſdem in poſterum abſque omni moleſtiâ manebit ‡."

(4) *Extract of a letter from the Lords Plenipotentiaries to Mr. Secretary St. John, dated at Utrecht, the 8th of April*, 1712.

" For their inſiſting on Cape Breton, with liberty to make ſettlements there, they urge the neceſſity of their navigation to Quebec, in which ſhips muſt oft'times need ſupplies. They ſay that iſland was yielded to them in the year 1632, and has ever ſince continued theirs; and that they do not mention it now in order to acquire a new right, but only to avoid miſtakes.

" They demand that the fort of Placentia be razed, that it may not obſtruct their right of fiſhing in thoſe parts. We firmly adhere to our demand; and Monſieur Gaultier ſays, that in that caſe, it muſt be yielded to us undemoliſhed. Their right of fiſhing they think will not be diſputed, and declare they can never part with it."

(5) *Extract of a letter from the Lords Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht to Lord Bolingbroke, Auguſt 9th*, 1712.

" They inſiſt upon the right to fiſh and dry, as formerly; and ſtill urge the paper ſigned by Monſieur Meſnager, whereby it is reſerved, but are willing the parts and places where they pretend to enjoy that liberty be determined. They ſeem not averſe to be excluded from fiſhing in the Bay

* Et inſulis adjacentibus.

† Ad majorem hujus articuli illuſtrationem, conventum eſt quod inſula Cap Breton dicta Gallici juris in poſterum erit, una cum facultate locum aliquem in eadem inſulâ pro lubitu muniendi, conventum ſimiliter eſt quod jus piſcaturæ, piſceſque in terrâ ſiccandi quo Galli in maribus ut & inſulâ de Terrâ Novâ olim, & hactenus gaviſi ſunt iiſdem in poſterum abſque omni moleſtia manebit.

‡ This part of the article contradicts the former.

find others of the ſame tenour; I have likewiſe read over with Monſieur Torcy, what their Plenipotentiaries have writ upon the ſame ſubject. In the whole tranſaction, I find a good deal of *brouillon*; and by the expreſs which came three days ſince from Utrecht, it is evident they never will agree till reſpective orders are ſent for their ſo doing, from hence and from Whitehall.

After long and ſour, but civil diſcourſes upon this point, Monſieur Torcy and Deſmarais, ſtill inſiſted upon their undoubted and never-yielded right to Cape Breton, in which I am afraid they are too well founded, and the latter having ſtill his eye upon their Chapeau-rouge, or keeping to the preliminaries which give them the liberty of fiſhing where they uſed, which indeed, was as well along Chapeau-rouge, as the Petit Nord, I ſaid it was in vain for them to ſend to Utrecht for an explanation of theſe matters; for without Placentia, and the advantages which ought naturally to follow its being given up, that article could never be accorded by the Britiſh nation, and that I took only a previous liberty of ſaying this, which the Duke of Shrewſbury would confirm within theſe four days; they agreed that the thing muſt be adjuſted here and at London, and Monſieur de Torcy took notes of the ſeveral propoſals I made, amongſt which I confeſs I did not mention the offer of half Cape-Breton, ſince the whole had been offered ſeveral months before (as your Lordſhip ſees) and had been

of Placentia, owning that when that place is in our hands, it would occaſion miſunderſtanding if their people ſhould fiſh in that bay.

" On the other ſide, they demand that liberty, not only on the Petit Nord, but alſo on the coaſt called in their maps Chapeau-rouge, ſtretching from the Bay of Placentia towards that of St. Lawrence. In theſe ſeas are the iſles of St. Peter, and others, to the propriety of which iſland they have hitherto pretended, but now ſeem to let that demand fall; but to Cape Breton they pretend as hitherto; and are very poſitive it would be the ruin of their colony of Canada, if, parting with Placentia, they have not ſome other place for their ſhips to repair to.

" We know not whether it would either content them, or be more tolerable for us, if, inſtead of Cape Breton, they are allowed to ſettle and fortify on the iſle of St. Peter, but we cannot perceive we ſhall be able to conclude, unleſs that liberty be left them, one where or other, nearer than the mouth of the river of St. Lawrence."

rejected:-

rejected: after all, I have received this incloſed propoſal (6) from Monſieur de Torcy, and ſend it into England, for the Queen's approbation or refuſal, which I would not have ventured to have done, but that I think it gets us ſafely off from the too extenſive clauſe in the Preliminaries, gives us the advantage in every part of the fiſhery, leaves the Queen entirely miſtreſs of all that is worth having in Newfoundland, and does really, as Monſieur Deſmarais expreſſes it, drive the French *au bout du monde*. Monſieur Dowdel, the perſon recommended to us by Gilligan, and a friend or two here, with whom I have talked concerning this matter, and who have been at Newfoundland, are all agreed, that from Cape Roi, northward, is a fiſhery yet unknown, and ſuch as has not been reckoned worth trying, and that the whole fiſhery, except a leſs ſort in the Petit Nord, lies ſouthward from Bona Viſta to Cape de Race, and from thence along the Bay of Placentia to Chapeau-rouge and Cape Roi, which is now in her Majeſty's hands, without the French being any way to interfere therein.

I have conferred, as well at Paris as here, with the two Miniſters I named before, upon the ſettling and renewing our commerce. I ſend your Lordſhip incloſed a little memorial (7) which I gave them, as a ſort

(6) "*PROPOSITION.*

"Que l'île du Cap-Breton demeurera au Roi, avec la liberté d'y faire fortifier. Que la Province de l'Acadie, avec tous les droits & prérogatives dont les François ont joui, ſera cédée par ſa Majeſté à la Reine de la Grande Bretagne avec l'île de Terreneuve, & les îles adjacentes à cette île. Bien-entendu que les François auront & conſerveront la faculté de pêcher, & de ſécher leurs pêches ſur les côtes de la dite île de Terreneuve, depuis le Cap de Bonaviſta, en remontant par le Nord, juſqu'à la Pointe Riche.

"Que toutes les îles ſituées à l'entrée de la Rivière & dans le Golphe de St. Laurent, appartiendront au Roi."

(7) "*Réponſe au Mémoire reçu le 29me Décembre, 1712.*

"Les nations amies ſont traitées en France pour les droits d'entrée ſur les marchandiſes,

(7) "*Mémoire de Monſieur Prior, du 21me Décembre, 1712.*

"(1) On propoſe que les Anglois ſoient traités à l'égard de leurs droits en France ſur le pied de

a ſort of text to our conference, and a ground for a future treaty: there was no need of my explaining the condition of *amiciſſima gens*, as the mutual

comme les ſujets du Roi. Il n'en eſt pas de même en Angleterre, les ſujets de l'état ſont traités fort différemment des étrangers.

" On propoſe de traiter les François en Angleterre de la même manière que les Anglois ſont traités en France; ce fondement eſt bon, il ſuppoſe une égalité qui eſt néceſſaire pour rétablir le commerce interrompu entre les deux nations depuis 1667. Mais la conſéquence ne répond pas au principe; on veut qu'en France les Anglois jouiſſent du tarif de 1664, qu'on caſſe & annulle les défenſes & les arrêts qui ont établi des droits différents du tarif de 1664; & pour un avantage auſſi grand & auſſi certain, on tâchera d'ajuſter les affaires du commerce auſſitôt que le Parlement ſera aſſemblé, de manière que les conditions ſeront égales de part & d'autre; ſi on accorde cet article, les Anglois ont tout ce qu'ils demandent, & cependant il faudra attendre les déciſions du Parlement d'Angleterre qu'on ne doit pas préſumer bien favorables au commerce des François.

" La négociation a été commencée ſur le fondement qu'on conviendroit de toutes les productions de la nature ou de l'art qui compoſent le commerce reſpectif entre la France & l'Angleterre, & que l'on conviendroit des droits qu'elles payeroient aux entrées des deux royaumes le plus équitablement qu'il ſe pourroit, comme le bien du commerce des deux états le demande, ce qui ſuppoſe une diſcuſſion de détail qui eſt diſpoſée par les états qui ont été faits, & qu'on pourroit communiquer, ſi on vouloit de la part de l'Angleterre faire la même choſe.

" On ne fait aucune difficulté de ſupprimer le droit de 50 par tonneau en même-tems qu'on ſupprimera le droit de 5 ſchellings en Angleterre.

" Obſervez, qu'il faut ſtipuler que les vaiſſeaux Anglois ne feront point le commerce d'un port du royaume dans un autre port.

" Par l'article 13 du premier projet du traité de commerce, donné par Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires d'Angleterre à Utrecht, on demandoit la même liberté pour la vente du tabac, mais ſur les obſervations faites ſur ce projet, les Plénipotentiaries d'Angleterre ayant donné un ſecond projet, *ils ont réformé* l'article 11 de ce dernier, & on étoit convenu qu'il en ſeroit uſé en France, par rapport aux Anglois pour le tabac, de la même manière qu'il ſe practique pour les ſujets *amiciſſima gens*, & que les François ſeront traités en Angleterre de la même manière.

" (2) Pour parvenir à cette fin, on caſſera & annullera inceſſamment toutes les défenſes entières & générales qui ont été faites ſur les tranſports & entrées des marchandiſes de part & d'autre; & vu que les Anglois jouiront par ce moyen du tarif de 1664, comme en jouiſſent actuellement les Hollandois, nous tâcherons d'ajuſter & de régler les affaires du commerce auſſitôt que le Parlement ſera aſſemblé, de manière que les conditions en *ſeront égales* de part & d'autre.

" (3) Que l'impoſition de 50 par tonneau, miſe ſur les navires Anglois qui apportent des marchandiſes en France, comme auſſi celle de cinq ſchellings ſterlings, miſe ſur les navires François en Angleterre, ſoient entièrement ôtées & abolies, de part & d'autre.

" (4) Comme le tabac eſt en ferme en France, & que les marchands Anglois ne peuvent le vendre à d'autre qu'aux commis prépoſés par les fermiers du tabac, ce qui porte un grand préjudice aux Anglois, empêchant entièrement la liberté du commerce à cet égard, on s'attend que les François trouveront les moyens convenables pour adoucir cette inégalité de commerce.

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mutual principle upon which we desired to stand; this I find has been distinctly handled, and abundantly disputed, at Utrecht. The observation that Monsieur Desmarais made upon it is very obvious: that upon this principle we should be with France as the Hollanders are, *i.e.* as specified in the tarif of 1664; that the reason why the Hollanders had, in great measure, the benefit of this tarif, was, that they had laid no new impositions on the goods of France imported into their provinces; yet the methods of commerce, and the necessary droits which this kingdom has been forced to raise, are such, as that France must deny that tarif to them (the Hollanders) particularly as to the *quatre espèces*, whale-bone and whale-oil, woollen cloth and serges, sugars according to their several refinements, and all sorts of salt-fish in barrel; upon all which heads Mon-

du Roi, ce qui avoit fait croire que c'étoit une difficulté terminée.

" Cet article est déjà accordé.

" La même chose avoit été demandée par le premier projet, article 17; mais sur les observations qui y furent faites alors, il n'en a point été parlé dans le second, ainsi on avoit cru cette difficulté entièrement terminée.

" Si on veut la discuter de nouveau, on peut revoir les remarques faites sur le premier projet, qui seroient trop longues pour être insérées dans ce mémoire.

" Suivant le tarif de 1664, les emballages, serpillières, caisses, &c. doivent être déduits sur les drogueries & épiceries seulement.

" A l'égard des droits pour les marchandises tarées & gâtées, on les règle à l'aimable, & cela se fait de concert entre les fermiers du Roi & les négocians, il n'y a jamais eu de réglement à cet égard.

" Article général & ordinaire dans les traités de commerce."

" (5) Que les sujets de sa Majesté Britannique déjà établis, ou qui s'établiront en France, soient exempts de la loi du droit d'aubaine, & qu'il leur soit permis de disposer de leurs biens par testament, donation, ou autrement.

" (6) Comme il est d'usage en Angleterre que les marchands François qui y amènent des marchandises, après avoir fait des déclarations à la douanne du contenu en leurs vaisseaux, en cas qu'il s'y trouve plus de balots ou tonneaux de marchandises qu'il y en a de déclaré, ils sont reçus à faire une nouvelle déclaration de supplément, appellée communément *postentry*; on demande que les marchands Anglois qui amènent des marchandises en France jouissent pareillement du dit privilége.

" (7) L'on demande aussi que le droit de remise accordé pour les marchandises gâtées, emballage, tonnage, &c. appellé tare, soit aussi accordé sur un pied égal de part & d'autre.

" (8) Et généralement que les sujets de la Grande Bretagne, & ceux de France, jouiront d'une liberté réciproque au fait du commerce, & qu'on tâche autant qu'on peut d'en ouvrir & faciliter toutes les meilleures voies de part & d'autre."

sieur

ſieur Deſmarais aſſerts that it would be impoſſible that France ſhould trade with Holland, except theſe commodities, and the manner of importing them, were regulated by the tarif of 1699, or ſome other equivalent proportion. Upon the article of ſalt-fiſh, I was very glad to hear Monſieur Deſmarais ſay, that whoever imports it into this kingdom muſt find it conſiderably advantageous: my thought was, that this ought to be a fair argument to us to mind and improve our fiſhery upon the coaſts of Scotland, for it is this ſort of fiſh which the Dutch import chiefly hither, and which the French mean to bring to the above-mentioned tarif.

Monſieur Deſmarais explains himſelf very much upon the head of an *entière prohibition* being very prejudicial to both nations, but more ſo to England, he ſays, than to France: and that the high duties on both ſides ought to be taken off, and brought to a juſt medium, which he thinks impoſſible to be done but by Commiſſioners, to be named to that purpoſe; for that this muſt coſt a great deal of time, for the French can only take off their duties as we ſhall take off ours, and the alteration of their edicts muſt go *pari paſſu* with that of our acts of Parliament.

To what I objected, that the King, being abſolute maſter of his edicts, might in the mean time take away the entire prohibition of ſeveral commodities, particularly thoſe ſpecified in the edict of September 6, 1701; he anſwered, likewiſe, that we had ſeveral entire prohibitions; for inſtance, their ſilks were as abſolutely forbid on our ſide, as our cloth on theirs; and repeated, that the taking off the entire prohibitions, as the alleviating the high duties, muſt go gradually and equally on both ſides, or always be made on one ſide upon condition that the other perform his part, and be intended to take place accordingly at ſuch time; for that if the prohibition on the French ſide were

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(as I ſeemed to think reaſonable) immediately taken off, the Engliſh would run a glut of their goods into France, ſufficient to ſerve the nation for two or three years: "while," ſays he, "we, the French, ſhall remain *les bras croiſés*; the Engliſh knowing the certain duties payable in France, and the French expecting how, or in what time, the duties upon their goods ſhall be taken off in England." Upon the whole, he has given this anſwer to the propoſals I gave him, as what might ſerve for a ground-work to a treaty of commerce; it was yeſterday read in Council, and I receive it this morning from Monſieur de Torcy, together with a ſcheme (8) of the chief commodities which

France

(8) "*Etat des denrées & productions du royaume.*

"Amandes.
Anchoix.
Avelines.
Bois de noyer en madriers.
Bois de noyer en planches, ou tables.
Brai.
Câpres groſſes.
Câpres fines.
Chataignes.
Chardon.
"Eau de la Reine d'Hongrie.
Eau-de-vie.
Figues.
Gâlipots.
Huile d'olive.
Jaye brun.
Liége.
Meules-à-moulins.
Miel.
Olives.
Paſtel.
Peaux de chévreaux en croûte.
"Pierres à carreaux.
Meules-à-moulins.
Plâtre.
Plumes pour lit.
Poires.
Pommes de reinette & autres.
Poudre-à-poudrer.
Prunes de Tour
Prunes de Brugnoles.
Prunes de Bourdeaux.
"Raiſins ſecs.
Redon.
Réſine.
Saffran.
Savon, blanc & marbré.
Sel.
Vaudes.
Vin rouge.
Vin blanc.
Vinaigre.

"*Etat des manufactures de France.*

"Bas drapes de laine fine pour femme, de toutes couleurs.
Ditto, communs.
Bas drapes de laine fine pour homme, de toutes couleurs.
Ditto, communs.
Bougrans.
Boutons d'or & d'argent, fin trait; de la grande ſorte.
Ditto, de la petite ſorte.
Boutons d'or & d'argent, fin filé ſur ſoie, aſſortis, par moitié de la grande & petite ſorte.
Boutons d'argent fin, ou d'argent doré, maſſif & plaqué ſur moule de bois.
Ditto, de la petite ſorte.
Brocards, à fond d'or & d'argent fin.
Brocards, à fond de damas, de taffetas, ou de ſatin, rehauſſés d'ornemens & de fleurs d'argent fin.
Brocards, à fond d'or & d'argent fin, lis & glacés, ſans aucunes fleurs ni ornemens de ſoie de couleur.
Brocards forts, de pure ſoie, à fond de ſatin, de damas, ou de taffetas, brochés de fleurs de couleur, ſans or ni argent.

Brocards

France ſends to England, which he deſires may be returned, with the ſpecific duties payable in England upon every head, and what time

Brocards moyens, de pure ſoie, à fond de ſatin, de damas, ou de taffetas, à fleurs de différentes couleurs.
Cadis larges ou étroits.
Cartes à jouer.
Chapeaux de caſtor.
Chapeaux de laine de toutes ſortes.
Dentelles blanches aſſorties, façon du Puy, d'Auvergne, & de Normandie, & autres provinces du royaume. Droguets raſés, eſtaminés, ras de maroc, de Barriere, de caſtor, mon cayards & Dauphin, de pure laine ou mêlés de ſoie.
Droguets & pluches d'or & d'argent fin, fil de chanvre ou de lin, de toutes couleurs.
Fil trait d'or fin.
Ditto d'argent fin.
Galons, franges, & dentelles d'or faux, filé ſur ſoie.
Ditto d'argent faux.
Gazes ſimples, unies ou rayées.
Ditto à fleurs, brochées de ſoie ou de laine.
Gazes damaſſées.
Jais ou jayer travaillé en ouvrages.
Glaces de France, façon de Veniſe.

" *Menues Mercerie*s, ſavoir:

" Bridons, boucles, & boutons de cuivre ou de métail, unis ou ouvragés, dorés ou non dorés; boutons de ſoie, de ſoie & de poil, & de pur poil; étrilles; étriers; gands de peau, de toutes ſortes, pour homme ou pour femme, unis ou garnis, de cuir ou de taffetas; épingles, aiguilles, étuis de poche; boîtes à mouches, & tabatières, d'ivoire, d'écaille, de corne, de bois, unies, gravées, ſculptées, ou garnies d'or d'argent; épées montées, avec leurs gardes & poignées de quelque métail qu'elles ſoient; lunettes de toutes ſortes; fouets; ouvrages de cuivre gravés ou en relief, dorés ou non dorés: peignes d'écaille, d'ivoire, de cornes, ou de bois; ouvrages d'acier, poli ou doré; & toutes ſortes d'autres menus ouvrages de poche.
Mouère d'or & d'argent.
Mouère de ſoie.
Or & argent fin, filé ſur ſoie de toutes qualités, l'un dans l'autre.
Papiers, perruques, blondes, ditto châtaines & noires penchenat.
Clincaillerie fine, comme couteaux, ciſeaux, razoirs, inſtrumens de chirurgie & d'horlogerie, & autres ouvrages de coutellerie.
Rubans de ſoie à fleurs ou rayeures d'or & d'argent depuis la plus petite juſques à quartre pouces de largeur.
Rubans tiſſus d'or & d'argent fin, d'un pouce juſques à quartre de largeur.
Serge de Niſmes & d'Uſez.
Taffetas unis, rayés, nuancés, changeans de toutes couleurs.
Tapiſſerie, Bergame ou droguets de Rouen, de fil, de laine, ou de ſoie.
Toiles blanches, fines, & fortes, de Normandie & de Laval.
Toiles communes de Normandie, toiles de fil & coton à carreaux, toiles royales à faire des voiles.
Toiles blanches appellées quintins, ou bretagnes étroites.
Toiles blanches de Morlaix, appellées écrues étroites.
Toiles blanches de Morlaix, appellées écrues larges.
Toiles blanches ouvrées à ſerviettes; toiles légères de cholet, toiles écrues de chanvre de $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, d'une aune de large, les unes dans les autres; toile-batiſte, Verres à vitre, & tous autres ouvrages de verrerie, les glaces façon de Véniſe exceptées."

may probably be aſked for the alleviating any part of them; and he deſires we ſhould ſend a like ſcheme of Engliſh goods which we import chiefly into France, and promiſes to give us thereupon a reciprocal account; the King being very willing to open a trade as ſoon and as fairly as poſſible with his old friends: but he concludes, that the confuſion and miſunderſtanding of twenty years will not be redreſſed without a good deal of time and labour.

The uſual articles, therefore, of a treaty of commerce, that of the *droit d'aubaine*, that of tare, and what your Lordſhip ſees is pretty near adjuſted, may be agreed and ſigned at Utrecht with the treaty of peace, but in a diſtinct inſtrument, and as a treaty of commerce; and in it the ſpecialties as to the manner of diminiſhing the *droits*, and regulating the tarif, muſt be provided for by one general clauſe.

I have waited on Monſieur Pontchartrain; and not perceiving that the liſt of ſhips taken, as we alleged, contrary to the terms of the ceſſation, or the uſual maritime laws, which I formerly left with him, has been regarded, I left another liſt with him, to which he ſays I ſhall have an anſwer in few days. John Wynne, the poor man ſo often taken and retaken, with his ſhip, are ſet at liberty; and our ſubjects, of which I have a long liſt, which I think comes from Colonel Nicholſon, that are, we ſay, taken againſt their will, and confined at Canada, will have leave to return to Boſton, or wherever we think proper, provided they are not *habitués* in Canada, and had rather ſtay there than otherwiſe; of this I ſhall ſend you more by my next.

Paris, 29th December, 1712.

I TOLD your Lordſhip I ſhould hear more from the Elector of Bavaria; I did ſo, by Monſieur de Torcy, laſt night. Count Monoſtrole repeats his maſter's acknowledgments to her Majeſty, and his deſire that ſhe will ſet him as free as her preſent circumſtances of affairs may

permit; and in a viſit this morning to Monſieur Voiſin *, he let fall, as ſeeming by chance, that it was not thought the Dutch would ever pretend to garriſon Luxemburgh.

Monoſtrole complains, and the Miniſters here ſecond the complaints, that Bonne, the very and only reſidence of the Elector of Cologn is to be garriſoned by Imperial troops, and Liege and Huy by Dutch. Monoſtrole has repreſented from his maſter to the Moſt Chriſtian King, that a formal treaty was made, in 1704, between the Electreſs and the late Emperor Joſeph †, not one word of which has been complied with, nor any recompence made him upon what was therein ſtipulated.

That the Houſe of Auſtria, not to count thirteen millions of florins which they formerly owed him, have during this war ſeized all his magazines, cannon, goods, plate, jewels, and pictures; that Rollembourg, the adjacent countries, and other large tracts of land, which are now comprehended in the Upper Palatinate, have been bought by the Houſe of Bavaria, *à beaux deniers contans*, and, by conſequence, ſhould be reſerved to him.

In theſe points, his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty would deſire the Queen to favour this Prince; and as he has given Monſieur de Torcy order to mention them to me, the Duc d'Aumont will likewiſe have order to ſpeak of them in England.

Another point, upon which this Court is very ſolicitous, is, that the Chevalier remaining in any town of France obſtructs the ſigning the peace; yet he cannot go to Lorrain till the Emperor's paſſport will ſecure him there. Your Lordſhip, by the peruſal of the papers (9, 10, 11) will ſee the ſtate of that caſe; and I have only to add, upon

* Secretary at War.

† By this treaty, ſhe was to ſurrender all the towns in her poſſeſſion to the Emperor, to reſide at Munich, with a guard of 400 men, and to have a penſion out of the electorate, for the ſupport of her court and family.

this

this ſubject, that the Court of France expreſſes an impoſſibility on their ſide to do more than they have done, and hopes we ſhould have intereſt

(9) *Copie de la Lettre de Monſeigneur le Duc de Loraine, Décembre 16me, 1712.*

" Je ſuis bien fâché, Monſieur, que votre indiſpoſition m'empêche de vous voir, mais j'eſpère qu'en peu vous vous porterez bien, ce que je ſouhaite beaucoup. Sautez m'a hier rendu compte de ce que vous lui avez dit touchant l'affaire dont je l'avois chargé, & pour que vous puiſſiez rendre encore un meilleur compte, je vous envoie ci-joint un petit mémoire, dont la mauvaiſe diction vous fera aſſez connoître que c'eſt mon ſtyle; j'eſpère que le Roi trouvera que j'ai eu raiſon de faire ce que j'ai fait, à moins que de m'engager dans une mauvaiſe affaire: je vous prie à propos de cela, de vous ſouvenir que vous m'avez dit, Monſieur, que ſa Majeſté vouloit que cette affaire ſe faſſe par le conſentement des alliés pour une plus grand ſureté, que la démarche que j'ai faite à la cour de Vienne n'a été qu'*officium boni viri*, & que pour cela, il ne ſeroit pas juſte que j'entraſſe en aucune diſcuſſion; je me flatte que le Roi entrera dans mes raiſons, & ſera convaincu que mon unique application eſt de plaire à ſa Majeſté, & lui faire connoître mon attachement reſpectueux: je ſerois malheureux, Monſieur, ſi je me trompois, & ſi je déplairois dans une occaſion où je n'ai pu prendre d'autre parti; ſoyez au reſte perſuadé qu'on ne peut être plus véritablement que

Je ſuis, &c.

(10) 'Monſieur d'Audifret ſe ſouviendra que lorſqu'il eſt venu ici de la part du Roi ſon maître, pour me témoigner que ſa Majeſté ſouhaitoit que j'employaſſe mes bons offices auprès des alliés pour procurer au Chevalier de St. George les ſuretés néceſſaires dans mes états, contre les courſes des troupes de ces mêmes alliés, je lui dis dès ce tems-là que je croyois que par mes avis la Reine de la Grande Bretagne ayant déjà accordé ſon ſauf-conduit au dit Chevalier, il n'y avoit plus à en demander qu'à l'Empereur & aux Hollandois, & je lui ajoutai que je croyois qu'il convenoit de commencer par demander ce ſauf-conduit de ſa Majeſté Impériale; parce que j'étois perſuadé que s'accordant, les Etats-Généraux feroient moins de difficultés, & que propoſant en droiture en Hollande, une affaire de cette importance, qui devoit paſſer par toutes les réſolutions de toutes les provinces, j'appréhendois que cela ne trainât en longueur, & que peut-être la réuſſite ſeroit plus difficile. Monſieur d'Audifret me parût approuver mon deſſein, & je ne tardai pas un moment à en écrire à mon Envoyé à Vienne, dont l'indiſpoſition a fait que je n'ai pas eu plutôt la réponſe.

' L'Empereur, ſur ma demande, m'a fait envoyer une copie du ſauf-conduit qu'il projetoit de donner, & y a joint une lettre, dont je joindrai ci-après la tranſlation: Monſieur d'Audifret trouvera dans l'une & dans l'autre de ces deux pièces des endroits barrés, auxquels je le prie de faire attention, lorſqu'il en rendra compte à la cour:

(11) *Tranſlation de la lettre de l'Empereur à ſon Alteſſe Royale.*

' Votre réſident, Valentini, m'a requis très humblement de votre part, pour donner les ordres néceſſaire afin que le nommé Chevalier de St. George, qui doit ſe tranſporter dans vos états, y puiſſe demeurer en ſureté de mes troupes & de celles des alliés, qui y peuvent croiſer facilement; & quoique j'aime fort de vous témoigner en toutes occaſions ma promptitude ſur vos demandes, & que je conçois très-bien les raiſons pour leſquelles vous n'avez pu refuſer les inſinuations qui vous ont été faites à cet égard, & qu'outre cela, je plains moi-même le dit Chevalier dans ſa ſituation infortunée; il eſt néanmoins par les circonſtances dignes de réflection, & qu'on peut s'imaginer aiſément, très difficile d'accorder pour lui pleinement le ſauf-conduit qu'on a demandé; je ne puis donc le donner que de la manière *que vous ayez grand ſoin qu'il s'en ſerve dans la droiture, & ſans préjudice à la cauſe commune, faute de quoi vous en ſeriez réponſable à moi, à l'Empire, & au reſte des alliés.*'

" * Par la lecture tant du projet du ſauf-conduit que de la lettre, j'eſpère que par le compte que Monſieur Daudifret voudra bien rendre, le Roi ſera perſuadé des ſoins que j'ai pris de faire réuſſir ſur le champ ce que ſa Majeſté a deſiré de moi, & je me flatte que par le compte qu'il aura

* The Duke of Lorrain here reſumes his letter.

intereſt enough with the Emperor to obtain ſuch paſſports from him as may ſecure as well the perſon who is to go into Lorrain, as the Duke of Lorrain, who is to receive him.

I have not heard from Utrecht ſince my arrival in France, but I preſume I ſhall hear in few days, Sunday next being the laſt day allowed for their determination; and if you approve the propoſal relating to Newfoundland, and judge the ſcheme of commerce ſuch as may form a general article, I think we are ready, let what will happen. I am more pleaſed with the propoſal as to Newfoundland, becauſe I ſee Monſieur Pontchartrain and ſome others heartily diſquieted at it. Monſieur de Torcy's letters from Utrecht ſay, that, of the provinces, Frieze, Utrecht, and Gelder, were for the peace; and, of Holland, the towns which ſtood chiefly out were Delft, Rotterdam, and Leyden.

The Duke of Argyle is here, and deſires a yatch may immediately be ordered to Calais, for his paſſage: he will tell your Lordſhip that the affair of Catalonia remains in *ſtatu quo*: Monſieur de Torcy has received advice, that the Duke of Berwick is within a day's march of Staremberg, that he has an army of fifty ſquadrons and forty battalions, much

déjà rendu à ſa Majeſté, elle aura vu l'envie que j'ai de lui plaire, non-ſeulement en cette occaſion, mais encore en toutes autres qui ſe ſont préſentées, & ſe préſenteront à l'avenir. Mais les deux endroits barrés tant dans le ſauf-conduit que dans la lettre de l'Empereur, m'ont obligé, & je n'y ai pas perdu un moment de tems à remontrer à ſa Majeſté Impériale, que moi & mes états étant neutres, je ne pouvois être chargé de pareilles conditions, que j'attribuois cela à des termes de Chancellerie, que j'eſpérois que l'Empereur voudra bien m'accorder cette grâce ſans ces reſtrictions, leſquelles je ne pouvois recevoir en façon quelconque. Je compte qu'en huit ou dix jours au plus tard, j'aurai une réponſe, à-moins que la rechute d'indiſpoſition de mon envoyé ne la retarde, & dès que j'aurai réponſe, je ne manquerai pas d'en informer ſur le champ Monſieur Daudifret.

" J'eſpère que le Roi trouvera que j'ai pris le bon parti dans cette occaſion, & qu'étant comme j'ai dit ci-deſſus en neutralité, je ne pouvois en aucun façon du monde entrer dans de pareils engagemens; je me flatte même qu'en ce rencontre comme en tous ceux qui ſe préſenteront, ſa Majeſté verra que mon unique application ſera toujours de lui donner des marques de mon attachement, & de l'envie très ſincère que j'ai de lui plaire en tout ce qui dépendra de moi.

" Si pendant cet intervalle on croyoit à propos que je fiſſe quelque démarche au côté de la Hollande, je le ferai avec bien de plaiſir, & ſi Monſieur Daudifret veut attendre là-deſſus des ordres de la cour, je ne ferai aucun mouvement entre ci & ce tems-là, mais s'il croit que je puiſſe en attendant faire quelque démarche, il n'aura qu'à me le mander & je ſerai toujours tout prêt à faire tout ce qu'il me conſeillera ſur ce ſujet."

ſuperior to that of the enemy. Monſieur Voiſin, tells me, the French are twenty-three thouſand effective men, and he reckons the Germans not above thirteen thouſand; the Duke of Argyle computes the Germans to be nearer twenty thouſand.

For home news, I ſaw the Dauphin * yeſterday, he was brought to the King at table; the child looks very well, a little pale, he is handſome, and ſeems to have a good deal of ſpirit. I expect the Duke of Shrewſbury here, on Saturday or Sunday. We have taken a rambling apartment for him, in l'Hôtel Soiſſons, which was the beſt however that we could find in all Paris.

I have writ rather a journal than a letter, the diverſity of the ſubjects which it contains muſt plead my excuſe, in every part of it. I have done my beſt for the Queen's ſervice, and I leave it to your great friendſhip to me to give it the moſt candid interpretation.

La Vigne brings inſtructions to the Duke d'Aumont upon many of the heads in my letter, and by him again, in caſe you ſend no meſſenger of her Majeſty's immediately, I may have your anſwer. I am with great truth,

Your Lordſhip's, &c.

M. Prior.

I humbly refer my Lord Dartmouth, to what I have writ to your Lordſhip.

* Afterwards Louis XVth.

From

From Mr. Prior.*

January 5th, N.S. 1712-13.

MATT has nothing to ſay to Henry, but that he has ſolicited Calandrini's affair with Monſieur Deſmarais, in a manner that he hopes may be effectual, though not in proportion, as to the time, with what Monſieur Calandrini may have promiſed himſelf; in this caſe, I beg of the Miniſter, whilſt I preach patience to a ſuffering family.

I expect to hear from you in anſwer to my long letter, and am immediately upon ſealing this to go to Verſailles, in order to hear what Monſier de Torcy has received from Utrecht, in relation to the grand affair. I hear and have heard nothing from thence, God knows my heart. I expect the Duke of Shewſbury every day, but have no certain news of his arrival on this ſide.

The Duke of Argyle has been kindly received here, his Grace will tell you the reſt. I am, &c.

MATT.

The Croiſſys, Ferioles, &c. are always yours; I ſend you theſe truffles from the latter, or the Duke of Argyle eats them by the way, no matter.

I have not a word of our ſhip from Rouen, nor of any thing therein contained, pray write to me *pro more ſolito.*

Yours.

* Received by Colonel Campbell.

From

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, 8th January, N.S. 1713.

I HAD ſcarce cloſed the letter which I did myſelf the honour to write to your Lordſhip two days ſince by Mr. Campbell, and wherein I told you, that Monſieur de Torcy had ſummoned me to Verſailles, in order to inform me of what he had received from his maſter's Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht; when I likewiſe received the incloſed (1, 2, 3, 4) from Lords Privy Seal and Strafford, containing the

(1) " *Points in diſpute upon the project of a Treaty of Peace between Great Britain and France.*

" We think that the country having been forcibly taken in time of peace, no right, either public or private, has been acquired.

" We demand that the French ſhall not fiſh within thirty leagues of the ſouth-eaſt ſide, nor within ten leagues of the north-weſt ſide of Nova Scotia.

" We deſire to determine the time in the Spring, when the French may come to fiſh upon the coaſt of Newfoundland, and that it be not ſooner than April. As alſo, that they remain not there after the autumnal Equinox.

" We think this neceſſary, to clear at all times to come, our right of poſſeſſion.

" We offer to ſettle the French fiſhing, and the propriety of Cape Breton, and other ſmall iſlands, according to any of the three alternatives which Mr. Prior is informed of.

" Our orders are expreſs as to the poſſeſſion of all or at leaſt of half of Cape Breton, and as to the iſle Sable, as alſo that of St. Peter, and others adjacent to Newfoundland. We are not empowered to admit of any temperaments, other than what is contained in the above-mentioned alternatives."

" The French demanded that at the reſtoring of Hudſon's Bay, the French there have liberty and a time allowed to ſell their immoveables.

" The French miniſters only plead their orders.

" They conſent to be excluded fiſhing on thoſe coaſts in general terms, but think it needleſs to fix any limits on the ſouth-eaſt ſide, and unreaſonable as to the north-weſt.

" They think no term of time ought to be preſcribed in either caſe.

" They are of opinion, it will expoſe their ſhipping to great dangers and inconveniencies, and be the occaſion of miſunderſtandings.

" They are lately come to offer that their fiſhing ſhall be from the Bay of Fortune northward, about to Cape Bonaviſta, and to be ſole poſſeſſors of Cape Breton, St. Paul, and the Iſles in the Gulph of St. Lawrence.

" They alſo demand the Iſle Sable, and that of St. Peter, &c.

" They ſeemed very deſirous to conclude, and in a manner owned, they could go ſomething farther, if we would admit of ſuch temperaments, as the caſe required."

the points which yet lie undecided between her Majeſty and this Court; I have conferred upon them all in general, with Monſieur de Torcy, and

(2) *Differences in the treaty of commerce.*

" We deſire that the ſubjects of either party may freely repair to the kingdoms and countries of the other. We cannot aver, that our general expreſſion would give any right to thoſe that are under a legal incapacity, but think we have reaſon to object againſt theirs as novelty, and without precedent, in any treaty of commerce.

" We are averſe to this, becauſe it would be a formal deciſion againſt the refugees; and rather than do ſo, ſhould incline to accept of their way of expreſſion (if it were in our power) becauſe it ſettles this matter in favour, at leaſt, of the children of the French refugees, born in England, which would otherwiſe remain undetermined."

" They propoſe to reſtrain it to the native ſubjects; but conſent to add, for explication, that all Britiſh ſubjects, not born in the dominions of France, may go into France; and all French ſubjects, not born in the dominions of Great Britain, may go into Great Britain: they think this precaution is needful, as well in reſpect of the French refugees, as of ſuch Britiſh natives now in France as ſtand proſcribed by the laws.

" They offer to accept our words, and to make an article apart concerning ſuch ſubjects on both ſides as are proſcribed."

(3) *The principal difference in the treaty of commerce.*

" We deſire that ſeveral articles that have been excluded out of the firſt plan of the treaty, and referred to commiſſioners, may be now ſettled, and replaced in the treaty.

" We own ſuch an agreement, but are nevertheleſs deſirous to go the other way.

" We apprehend Commiſſioners will ſcarce ever agree.

" Our orders oblige us to inſiſt, that when by Act of Parliament, the duties upon the growth and manufactures of France, ſhall be reduced to the ſame proportionate rates that are paid for the like goods by other nations, and all acts prohibiting the importation of any French goods that have been made ſince the year 1664, ſhall be repealed, we

" They allege an agreement made between the two Crowns in May laſt, whereby any matters of long diſcuſſion be left to Commiſſioners.

" They object, that it will be impoſſible in our way to conclude the treaty in the time that will be requiſite, becauſe it will neceſſarily require a very nice and tedious examination of tarifs, prohibitions, and rules of trade, on both ſides.

" In the mean time, they offer, that we, concluding the treaty their way, ſhall immediately participate in all the benefits of trade in France that ſhall be granted to the Dutch; and that they, on the other ſide, will wait for redreſs of the grievances their trade is under in Britain.

" They aſſure us there will be no affectation of delay on their ſide; the rather, becauſe the French trade in Britain will need relief, more than the Britiſh in France.

" They ſay immediately upon the ratification of the treaty of commerce (if we make one) we are to enjoy all the benefits of that tariff, except only four ſpecies.

and with Meſſieurs Deſmarais and Pontchartrain, upon thoſe which more immediately regard their reſpective Provinces: and upon the whole ſend you the reſult of ſuch my conferences, which I hope you will find to be ſuch as may facilitate the orders which our Ambaſſadors expect from your Lordſhip.

As to what relates in Monſieur de Torcy's mémoire (5) to the fourth article, concerning the words, *titulum aſſumpſit*, and *nomen uſurpavit*, or *ſibi arrogavit*,

ſhall then enjoy in France the full effect of the Tariff of 1664.

" We underſtand it to be ſo, but, think it needful our woollen manufacture, fiſh, ſugars, and tobacco, ſhould be eaſed of the preſent burdens upon them in France."

" They ſay their caſe is the ſame in reſpect of many of their manufactures, and that theſe difficulties cannot be removed, but by commiſſioners."

(4) *Article propoſed about the tariff of* 1664, *received from Monſieur de Torcy, the 7th of Jan.* 1713.

" Les articles qui regardent la liberté que les ſujets de part & d'autre auront & doivent avoir de venir traffiquer, &c. ſeront exprimés en termes généraux; & ſi dans le détail il ſe trouve quelque exception à faire, il en ſera convenu ſans perte de tems, ſoit avec Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury, ſoit avec Monſieur Prior, ſoit à Utrecht entre Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaries de France & de la Grande Bretagne.

" Lorſque par acte du Parlement de la Grande Bretagne, les droits ſur les denrées du crû manufactures & marchandiſes de France, ſeront réduits à la même proportion de ceux qui doivent ſe lever en France ſur les denrées du crû manufactures & marchandiſes de la Grande Bretagne, ſuivant le tarif de l'année 1664, les ſujets de la Grande Bretagne jouiront alors en France du Tarif de la dite année 1664."

(5) *Reçu de Monſieur de Torcy, 7me Janvier,* 1712-13.

" *Mémoire pour Monſieur Prior.*

" Par l'article 4 du projet de traité de paix à faire avec la Grande Bretagne, envoyé à Utrecht au mois d'Août dernier, il eſt dit: *Ille qui Regis Magnæ Britanniæ titulum aſſumpſit*, &c.

" Aujourd'hui Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne veulent changer cette expreſſion dont ils étoient convenus, & ſubſtituer en ſa place les termes ſuivans: *Qui Regis Magnæ Britanniæ nomen uſurpavit*, ou bien, *ſibi arrogavit*. Termes qui ne donnent pas plus de force à l'engagement que le Roi prend par cet article à l'égard de la ſucceſſion réglée par les actes du Parlement.

" Sur l'article 8, on a toujours fait obſerver qu'il étoit néceſſaire de diſtinguer deux différentes ſortes d'écluſes à Dunkerque; les unes ſervant à nettoyer le Port, les autres à retenir les eaux pour empêcher l'inondation du pays.

" Il n'y a point de difficulté à démolir les premières, comme faiſant part des fortifications: quant aux ſecondes, leur déſtruction ne ſerviroit qu'à ruiner le pays des environs, ſans produire aucun avantage à l'Angleterre; Monſieur le Vicomte de Bolingbroke s'eſt éclairci par lui-même de cette vérité, lorſqu'il a paſſé par Dunkerque en retournant à Londres. On ne doute donc pas que ſur le compte qu'il en aura rendu à la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, toute difficulté ſur cet article ne ſoit déjà levée.

" Il eſt porté par l'article 9 du projet, que le Roi fera remettre à la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, la Baie d'Hudſon, &c. de la manière que ſa Majeſté & les François la poſsèdent préſentement.

Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne prétendent qu'il ſoit exprimé, que non-ſeulement la France rendra *ce qui a été pris ſur les Anglois*, mais encore, *tout ce que l'Angleterre à jamais poſſédé de ce côté-là*. Cette clauſe nouvelle eſt différente du projet, ſeroit une ſource de difficultés continuelles; mais pour les éviter, le Roi a renvoyé à ſes Plénipotentiaires la même carte de l'Amérique Septentrionale

arrogavit, ſince there never was any thing in that grammatical controverſy but its having been diſputed, I take it for granted the matter is long ſince adjuſted, or may very eaſily be ſo; our Ambaſſadors not taking notice of it in the incloſed *points in diſpute*, however, I was ſatisfied that Monſieur de Torcy ſhould ſend his remarks upon it, ſince his ſo doing is a kind of *ouverte acte*, by which the French do once more previouſly acknowledge what they are to ſtipulate with us in that behalf.

The point concerning the ſluices about Dunkirk, will admit of no difficulty, it having depended upon the eſſential difference between de-

nale qui leur avoit été communiquée par les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne. Sa Majeſté a fait tracer ſur cette carte une ligne qui marque les limites, de manière qu'elle a lieu de croire qu'on pourra facilement convenir ſur ce point de part & d'autre.

" Si toutefois il y avoit encore quelque difficulté que Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires ne puſſent aplanir, la déciſion en ſeroit remiſe aux Commiſſaires qui ſeront nommés pour régler les limites de l'Amérique. Il eſt porté par le même article, qu'il ſera permis aux ſujets du Roi de ſortir des terres en des lieux que ſa Majeſté cède à la Couronne de la Grande Bretagne, d'emporter avec eux leurs biens & meubles, & d'aller, ſoit par terre ſoit par mer, où bon leur ſemblera. Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la France leur ont auſſi réſervé la faculté de vendre leurs biens immeubles dans l'eſpace de trois ans.

Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne conteſtent le terme de trois ans, & le veulent borner à un an. Ils prétendent de plus, faire une diſtinction des lieux cédés, & des lieux qu'ils appellent reſtitués. Ils conſentent de laiſſer au François établis dans les lieux cédés, la faculté de vendre leurs biens immeubles dans l'eſpace d'un an. Mais ils prétendent qu'ils ne doivent pas jouir de cette même liberté dans les lieux reſtitués. Ils comprennent ſous le nom de lieux cédés, l'Acadie & l'Iſle de Saint Chriſtophe: ſous le nom de lieux reſtitués, la Baie & le Détroit d'Hudſon, & l'Iſle de Terreneuve. Pour lever cette difficulté, ou peut fixer le terme à deux ans ou dix-huit mois, & laiſſer aux François établis, ſoit dans les lieux cédés ſoit dans les lieux reſtitués, une égale liberté de vendre leurs biens immeubles dans cette eſpace de tems.

" Sur l'article 10, Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de France demandent que les Anglois obtenant le droit de porter leurs plaintes par devant les Commiſſaires des dommages ſoufferts à la Baie d'Hudſon, les ſujets du Roi aient auſſi le même droit à l'égard de l'affaire de Niéves & de celle de Gambie.

" Cette réciprocité, dont Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne n'ont pas encore voulu convenir, paroît juſte: les Anglois auront auſſi la liberté de repréſenter les pertes qu'ils ont faites l'année dernière à Monſaret & d'en ſoliciter le dédommagement qui leur ſera accordé.

" Il étoit porté par l'article 11 du Projet, que les François ne pourroient pêcher à l'avenir ſur les côtes de l'Acadie. Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne veulent aujourd'hui étendre cette interdiction de la pêche. Ils prétendent que les François ne la pourront exercer à trente lieues au ſud-eſt de cette Province, & à dix lieues au nord-oueſt. Si cette prétention avoit lieu, les François ne pourroient pêcher dans le Golfe même de St. Laurent. La propoſition communiquée à Monſieur Prior aplainra cette difficulté, puiſqu'il eſt marqué que l'Acadie eſt cédée avec tous les droits & prérogatives dont les François ont joui. Il eſt inutile d'entrer dans une diſcuſſion plus particulière.

" Sur l'article 12, Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne ont propoſé de borner le tems de la pêche des François depuis les premiers jours d'Avril juſqu'au 20me Septembre. Mais comme cette reſtriction nouvelle eſt impracticable, contraire à l'uſage ordinaire & à la bonne intelligence qu'on veut établir entre les deux nations, on eſt perſuadé que la Reine de la Grande Bretagne la déſapprouvera."

moliſhing the fortifications, and drowning the country, and upon the report which Mr. Hill, according to our Ambaſſadors, and which your Lordſhip, according to Monſieur de Torcy, have made on this ſubject.

As to the limits of Hudſon's Bay, what the Miniſtry here ſeem to apprehend, at leaſt in virtue of the general expreſſion *tout ce que l'Angleterre a jamais poſſédé de ce côté-là*, which they aſſert to be wholly new, and which I think is really ſo, ſince our Plenipotentiaries make no mention of it, may give us occaſion to encroach at any time upon their dominions in Canada, I have anſwered, that ſince, according to the *carte* which came from our Plenipotentiaries, marked with the extent of what was thought our dominion, and returned by the French with what they judged the extent of theirs, there was no very great difference, and that the parties who determine that difference muſt be guided by the ſame *carte*; I thought that article would admit no diſpute, in caſe it be either determined immediately by the Plenipotentiaries, or referred to Commiſſioners. I take leave to add to your Lordſhip, that theſe limitations are no otherwiſe advantageous or prejudicial to Great Britain, than as we are better or worſe with the native Indians, and that the whole is a matter rather of induſtry than dominion.

If there be any real difference between *reſtitution* and *ceſſion*, *quæritur*; yet ſince in either caſe, the right of the inhabitant as to transferring his goods and effects, or diſpoſing of his perſon and family, is always provided for in treaty, I leave it to your Lordſhip's better judgment, if a fixed time in either caſe, ſuppoſe eighteen months or two years, does not put the ſubject, who is to have the benefit which *reſtitution* or *ceſſion* grants him, upon an equaler foot, and conſequently leſs to be conteſted, than if the terms of time were different? Your Lordſhip ſees the limitation comes up pretty near to what our Plenipotentiaries inſiſt upon, i. e.

a year, allowing ſome months for the people in thoſe remote parts to be informed of the agreement made here. This article therefore, if agreed, will therefore comprehend thoſe of Hudſon's Bay, Newfoundland, Acadie, and St. Chriſtopher's.

Our Plenipotentiaries mention nothing relating to the 10th article, by which in Monſieur de Torcy's mémoire, your Lordſhip ſees thoſe of France, demand that the ſubjects of the Crown may exhibit their complaints to Commiſſioners hereafter to be named, in relation to their loſſes at Nieuves and Gambie, I mean what we owe them as to Nieuves, in like manner as the ſubjects of her Majeſty are to exhibit their complaints as to Hudſon's Bay; your Lordſhip will ſee that I have got a like clauſe added in favour of her Majeſty's ſubjects, for the loſſes they ſuſtained laſt year at Montſerrat, which I hope may indemnify the particular ſufferers in that caſe, and prevent the ill effects which, as your Lordſhip writ me word ſome months ſince, might be apprehended from the murmurs raiſed upon that ſubject.

The demand which our Plenipotentiaries make, that the French ſhall not fiſh within thirty leagues of the ſouth-eaſt of Acadie, i. e. upon the long bank which runs from weſt to eaſt before that country, was founded upon this aſſertion, that while Acadie was in the French hands, we were obliged to the like reſtriction, and conſequently the words in the propoſal lately ſent, "*que la province de l'Acadie, avec tous les droits & prérogatives dont les François ont joui, ſera cédé par ſa Majeſté à la Reine de la Grande Bretagne*," admits our claim, and finiſhes the diſpute, as Monſieur de Torcy obſerves in the incloſed memorial; but as to their being forbid to fiſh within ten leagues of the north-weſt of Acadie, Meſſieurs Torcy and Deſmarais, think the propoſition wholly new; alledge it deprives them of the benefit of fiſhing on the coaſt of Cape Breton, cannot but cauſe, what in every other part

of our demands we ſeem to avoid, a future and frequent diſpute between our fiſhers of each nation.

The reſtraining their fiſhery to an exact time, *i. e.* between the 1ſt of April till the 20th of September, they likewiſe except againſt, as new, and hope it will not be inſiſted on. Monſieur de Torcy civilly taking notice that we were not ſo unkind as to offer ſuch a reſtriction to the Hollanders, or any other nation, upon any occaſion, or at any time; and Monſieur Deſmarais, with more warmth, proving it impracticable, that their fiſhers ſetting out from hence, conſidering the hazards of wind, and uncertainties of their voyage, muſt either be on the coaſts before the day preſcribed, and in this caſe muſt ſtay inactive, at the loſs both of their time and their proviſions, or, coming too late, would not be able to cure, and return their fiſh within a convenient ſeaſon; this, they ſaid, was not of a piece with the *gens amiciſſima*, and would be rather an unkind mark of diſtinction ſet upon them, than a real advantage to us.

The iſle of St. Peter, which our Plenipotentiaries ſay the French demand, your Lordſhip will ſee, is yielded to us, in thoſe words of the propoſal lately ſent, *avec la Terreneuve, & les îles adjacentes à cette île.* The reaſon why, as your Lordſhip remembers, Monſieur Meſnager laſt year inſiſted ſo much upon this iſland of St. Peter, and why the French would have confined our poſſeſſions of the iſles round Newfoundland to a certain diſtance, out of which St. Peter's would yet be exempted, is, that though they had yielded, as they have done by the propoſal, that part of the coaſts to us, as to drying, &c. they ſtill would have had the convenience of drying upon this little iſle: but it is now evidently given to us, as belonging to Newfoundland; and they take the iſle of St. Paul to be as evidently yielded to them, as belonging to Cape Breton: and ſo the whole matter reſts plain and determined, ſuppoſing always that the propoſal be agreed to.

Give

Give me leave, my Lord, to remark, upon the head of Newfoundland, that the laſt offer made by the French Plenipotentiaries to ours, was, that they, the French, ſhould fiſh from the Bay of Fortune round by the north of Bonaviſta; this was the ſame which the Miniſters here offered to me; and from the Bay of Fortune they receded to Cap Roi: but in the propoſal ſent by me, their liberty begins only from Point Rich; that there is a great tract between the Bay and the Cape and the Point abovementioned, and both theſe tracts capable of an excellent fiſhery, which, as I have heard, declines in its value as the iſland from Point Rich grows ſtraighter towards the north-eaſt.

The difference in the treaty of commerce relating to the liberty of the Engliſh ſubjects trading, is, your Lordſhip ſees by the incloſed *mémoire*, agreed in the manner as our Plenipotentiaries deſire. As is likewiſe the ſtipulation deſired, that the tarif of 1664 ſhall be the baſe upon which our mutual commerce ſhall be founded, and the rule to which our acts of Parliament and the French edicts ſhall be reduced. I add to your Lordſhip, this little book of their edicts; not knowing if it is not rare in England. I came only to Paris to diſpatch this courier, and go again to Verſailles to-morrow, to ſee what theſe people have farther to ſay to me before the King goes to Marly, which will be on Wedneſday, after which the ten days of his ſtaying there makes a ſort of vacance from all buſineſs.

I expect his Grace of Shrewſbury here every day, having advice that on the third he was at Margate, and expected the next day at Calais.

I am, with great reſpect,

Your Lordſhip's, &c.

M. PRIOR.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Verſailles, ce 29me Décembre, 1712.

VOUS nous avez renvoyé, my Lord, ſous l'extérieur de Matthieu, le véritable fils de Monſieur Buys; il ne lui manque que de remplir la verre de ſon père. Il eſt d'ailleurs auſſi Hollandois, & je crois beaucoup plus opiniâtre. Il a falu céder & ſe conformer preſques á tout ce qu'il a voulu; encore n'étoit-il pas content; j'eſpère cependant que vous le ſerez, & que toutes les difficultés qui arrêtent encore la ſignature du traité vont être levées; mais je vous avoue, que je m'attends à des reproches terribles de la part des Plénipotentiaires du Roi, qui diſputoient fortement avec les votres ſur des articles que Matthieu a obtenus ſans beaucoup de peine, & peut-être avec moins de raiſon. Enfin je crois que vous ſerez plus content de ſon Excellence que je ne le ſuis, & j'eſpère que Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury, que j'attends à tout moment, trouvera que les choſes ont été bien avancées. Je ne doute pas auſſi qu'on ne les avance du côté d'Utrecht, & que vos alliés ne ſe mettent à la raiſon.

Il faut laiſſer préſentement à Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont à vous entretenir ſur ces matières; mais je vous ſupplie, my Lord, de ne me pas donner mon congé; je vous aſſure, que quand je ſerois réduit à ne vous écrire que des lettres de bonnes fêtes, j'aimerois mieux vous en importuner que de me croire expoſé à être oublié de vous.

Avant que de recourir à cette dernière reſſource, vous me donnez, my Lord, de nouveaux ſujets de vous remercier des bonnes offices que vous continuez de rendre au Duc de St. Pierre. Il n'y a certainement perſonne à qui j'aime mieux être obligé qu'à vous, & ma ſatisfaction ſera parfaite ſi je trouve jamais les moyens de vous marquer que je

ſuis,

ſuis, avec l'attachement le plus ſincère, &, permettez-moi de dire, le plus tendre,

Votre, &c.

De Torcy.

Matthieu m'a dit, Monſieur, qu'il dépêchoit un courier à Angleterre, ainſi vous ſerez informé par lui de l'état où nous avons mis le reſte des difficultés qui arrêtoient encore la concluſion du traité.

Au nom de Dieu, donnez ordre à Meſſieurs vos Plénipotentiaires, d'être moins bons Grammairiens; les nôtres qui entendent auſſi la force des expreſſions Latines s'impatientent de voir renaître des difficultés terminées il y à long-tems, & d'en voir former des nouvelles ſur la différence de ceſſion & de reſtitution & ſur les attributes de ces deux termes. En vérité, ces queſtions ne devroient pas amuſer d'honêtes gens. On les pardonne tout au plus à ceux à qui l'on répond *amantium iræ.* Terminez donc, Monſieur, des diſputes dont nos ennemis ſeuls profiteroient ſi elles duroient encore long-tems.

Vous laiſſez ennuyer Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont à Boulogne, & je ſuis perſuadé que depuis qu'il eſt en cette ville, l'impatience qu'il avoit de paſſer en Angleterre eſt encore augmentée; j'en aurois beaucoup, ſi j'étois en ſa place, de vous aſſurer que perſonne n'eſt avec plus de vérité, & plus parfaitement,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

De Torcy.

To Sir Thomas Hanmer.

SIR,

Whitehall.

IF you received no letters from me upon your arrival at Paris, according to my promiſe, it was becauſe I found all my acquaintance there prepared to do the honours of their country; and I muſt have been guilty of an impertinent affectation, if I had gone about to recommend one whoſe perſonal merit being already known, had done that office much more effectually for himſelf. The Duke and Ducheſs of Shrewſbury will be arrived, I hope, long before this letter comes to your hands. I envy no pleaſure which ſo good a friend enjoys, but I ſhall often wiſh myſelf with you, and ſhall form in my fancy a multitude of agreeable parties, the amuſements of which I long to ſhare.

If I have the honour of a line from you, pray give me ſome account of Mat's private life. Once I was in the gentleman's ſecret; but his laſt diſpatch contains, in almoſt a ream of paper, nothing but ſolemn accounts of buſineſs, ſuch as made me expect to find Jo. Werden, inſtead of Mat Prior, at the bottom of the voluminous epiſtle. We hear much of a certain eloped nun, who has ſupplanted the nut-brown maid.

The laſt letters from Madrid, and the laſt conferences which we had with the Marquis de Monteleon, give us reaſon to hope that we ſhall ſoon ſettle every thing with the Court of Spain, in a manner agreeable to them, and not a little advantageous to us. The differences with France are, I think, reduced to two ſhort propoſitions; though the Plenipotentiaries of Utrecht ſeem ſtill to think themſelves at a great diſtance from each other; the Dutch will ſubmit, and the Moſt Auguſt Emperor muſt ſubmit. Thus are we come very near a concluſion; but I am not, however, ſanguine enough to imagine that

a peace, ſigned and ratified, can be laid before the Parliament at the time to which the two Houſes ſtand now prorogued. I take it for granted, that the ſeſſion will be deferred at leaſt a fortnight or three weeks farther.

May I aſk when you deſign to return to us?—Wherever you are, you have not a more faithful and obedient, humble ſervant than, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY DEAR LORD,

Whitehall, January 3d, O.S. 1712.

I AM really in ſuch a ſituation that it is impoſſible to be punctual, as I would always wiſh to be in my correſpondence with your Lordſhip; which, as I know you are not ignorant of, ſo I know you are juſt enough to give allowances for it.

I begin now by heartily congratulating your Lordſhip on the fair proſpect which we have before us of ending this tedious, intricate, and ſo much traverſed negociation. I judge as you do of the French impatience, and have ſeen in my correſpondence the ſame ſymptoms thereof which you are pleaſed to mention.

We are going to diſpatch a courier to Spain, in concert with the Marquis de Monteleon; and I hope all matters are as good as ſettled with that Court, in a manner extremely advantageous and honourable to the Queen. I gave your Lordſhip a character of Mr. Gilligan, and can aſſure you, that he has more than anſwered all I ſaid of him.

Your Lordſhips will draw your treaties with France now into a perfect form, and then we may venture to meet the Parliament, from whom I dare prophecy that ſuch of the allies as hang back will receive little encouragement.

Really,

Really, my Lord, the French are impertinent, in pretending to impoſe as conditions, what, if they had offered with that air, would not have been accepted. The two papers mentioned were ſent by Mr. Prior, and put by him into my hands, without one word to accompany them, from Monſieur de Torcy; I forgot to give them to you, which might be occaſioned by the little weight which was laid on them, and I ſent them as ſoon as I thought of them: but enough of a matter which does not deſerve the trouble your Lordſhip's good-nature towards me makes you take. If the French can get theſe exceptions out of their ceſſion, it is well for them; but, I beſeech your Lordſhips, let not Monſieur de Polignac, nor Meſnager, nor any one elſe, preſume to ſay they were made conditions of the ceſſion of Tournay, for it is falſe, and I will juſtify it to be ſo.

The Biſhop's* conduct is, I own to your Lordſhip, very unaccountable; the papers were ſent as papers which I omitted by miſtake to give you, and ought not to have been kept from you; as to his knowing Prior's plan, brought from France, I confeſs I am in the dark. I know nothing brought by Prior more than what you, my Lord, was apprized of when you was here; and if there was any thing farther brought, which I do not believe, I am not, upon my honour, in the ſecret. What has paſſed, I agree with you, ſhould never be ſpoken of, and I promiſe your Lordſhip never to ſpeak of it; but on this occaſion I cannot help to you, as a friend, to take notice, that I writ ſome private letters to my Lord Privy Seal, at times when you was abſent from Utrecht, to which he never condeſcended to afford the leaſt anſwer; particularly once I acquainted him with ſome informations which I had of very ſcandalous diſcourſes held by Mr. Jefferies, concerning the Queen's meaſures; and I added, that I had not complained to her Majeſty of the gentleman, becauſe I knew he had been recom-

* Of Briſtol.

mended by his Lordſhip. I am not conſcious that I ever did any thing to deſerve his Lordſhip's contempt or neglect, and therefore am the leſs concerned at either.

I underſtand, by your Lordſhips' joint-letter of the 10th, the ſtate of commerce better than I did before, and hope on Tueſday to clear up the clouds, and enable your Lordſhip to conclude: let me deſire, that when you have done ſo, you will propoſe to have copies made, examined, and agreed to, by the French and your Lordſhip, and theſe copies to be ſent to the reſpective Courts.

Be ſo good as to comfort Weſtcombe.—I may give you the true reaſon, though I dare not give it him, of his being diſappointed: I ſpoke formerly to the Queen for the Conſulſhip of Bourdeaux for him, and I thought, indeed, that the Queen had promiſed it to him; ſince that, application has been made, underhand, for another, and has ſucceeded. All I can do at preſent is, to offer to uſe my intereſt to procure him the Conſulſhip of Flanders, the drunken beaſt who has it being no longer to be endured.

My good Lord, believe, &c.

To the Duke of Shrewſbury.

My Lord,

Whitehall, January 7th, O.S. 1712-13.

THE liberty your Grace allowed me to take of troubling you ſometimes with my letters, is ſo much to my advantage, that you muſt not be ſurprized if I begin thus ſoon to make uſe of it.

The Duke d'Aumont arrived here on Friday, and according to his calculation, your Grace arrived the ſame day at Paris, ſo that I make no doubt but the Queen's Miniſters having ſent you from Utrecht,

an account of the preſent ſtate of things, your Grace has by this time brought the negociation out of the labyrinth into which it began to be carried.

The laſt letters which I have received from the Plenipotentiaries put the diſpute as to commerce in a very clear light, and if my Lords had explained themſelves ſooner in the ſame manner, they would have eſcaped the trouble of reading, as I ſhould have done of writing ſome very voluminous diſpatches.

I wiſh they may underſtand rightly the intention of the French, if there is no miſtake between them, that great bone of contention is very near removed. They ſay now, that we are to be allowed all the benefits of *amiciſſima gens* in France, and the French the ſame in Britain. That in conſequence hereof, we are to be allowed the tarif of 1664; not on our bringing the duties laid by that tarif on Britiſh goods, but on our bringing the duties here on French goods to the ſame proportions as other nations pay here for goods of the ſame ſorts. My Lords add, that the work of the Commiſſioners is to be only this, that whereas in the articles excluded we demand ſomething more than what the general title of *amiciſſima gens* entitles us to, theſe Commiſſioners are to ſettle an equivalent for ſo many of ſuch conceſſions as France ſhall make.

Upon this foot, your Grace ſees, a great part of the difficulties apprehended is removed, ſince France gives up the principle which we thought they adhered to, of obliging us to make a tarif proportionate to that of 1664. I confeſs, Mr. Prior's letters led me to think that this difficulty ſtill ſubſiſted; but ſince it is vaniſhed at Utrecht, I take it for granted you do not meet with it at Paris. We are pretty ſafe if nothing is to be referred to Commiſſioners, but what we demand in reference to the four excepted ſpecies, or over and above the tarif of 1664; and yet, I ſhould hope, that till the laſt theſe points need not

be

be abſolutely yielded, though I think the Queen would much ſooner refer them than delay ſigning her treaty a day.

The other principal article of diſpute, is about North America. By what Mr. Prior writes, I perceive the French are already come to that expedient, which I had prepared to be offered if nothing elſe would do, and which was not thought proper to be made an inſtruction to your Grace. They muſt make us eaſy in agreeing to what you have to aſk; the difference to them between not fiſhing at all on the coaſt of Newfoundland, and being confined to fiſh in the northern parts only, cannot poſſibly be very momentous, when they have the entire coaſt of Cape Breton to themſelves; but the difference to us is very eſſential, with reſpect to popularity and opinion, between having the iſland abſolutely without any interfering right, and having the ſovereignty of the whole, whilſt they remain entitled to put part of it to the only uſe for which it is valuable.

My Lord Treaſurer has been very much indiſpoſed, and that indiſpoſition has retarded the departure of the Marquis de Monteleon's courier, whoſe diſpatches would, I believe, wind up our diſputes with Spain; we hope, however, this week the letters may be ſent.

Thus, my Lord, the Parliament not meeting till the end of January or beginning of February, the Queen will be able to ſpeak of her own intereſts as determined. That thoſe of her allies are no farther ſettled, ſhe will attribute to the true cauſes; and if the Dutch and Imperial politicians do once more wait for miracles to be wrought in their favour by the Whigs in Parliament, I make no doubt of their being diſappointed, ſince we are ſolemnly promiſed that our whole ſtrength is to appear on the firſt day of the ſeſſion.

I omit to take notice to your Grace of any other differences ſtill ſubſiſting between us and the French, becauſe they are really unworthy of your Grace's attention, and beſides in a letter to Mr. Prior, which

anſwers

anſwers all the parts of two I received from him, I enter into this detail.

I incloſe to your Grace, the letter of the States to the Queen, and her Majeſty's anſwer; by the next courier, you ſhall receive their remarks, and our anſwers to them: if you find any thing harſh, your Grace muſt attribute it to the knowledge we have that the Dutch change only in appearance, and that even theſe ſubmiſſive meaſures are taken in concert with our Whigs here. From hence your Grace eaſily judges how neceſſary it is ſoon to be at a certainty with France and Spain. I will add another reaſon for coming to an agreement of every thing at Paris, and that is, that I find ſome people in Holland unwilling to have done.

The Queen has been out of order with the gout in her arm, and a cold, but the indiſpoſition is of no conſequence.

I ſhall do myſelf the honour to write to your Grace on Saturday next, and am, with the trueſt reſpect, my Lord,

Your Grace's, &c.

A Madame de Fériole.

De Whitehall, ce 7me Janvier, V.S. 1712.

EN vérité, Madame, vos lettres me rendent confus, & au lieu de me ſavoir bon gré des petits ſervices que j'ai tâché de rendre à Monſieur l'Abbé de Tencin, je ſuis au déſeſpoir de n'avoir pu répondre d'une meilleure manière à toutes les bontés que vous avez pour moi. Conſervez-moi, s'il vous plaît, une place dans votre ſouvenir, comptez que par la bonté de mon cœur je tâcherai de ſuppléer aux défauts de

mon eſprit, & que déſeſpérant de réuſſiir du côté de la tendreſſe, je ferai mes plus grands efforts pour réuſſir du côté de l'eſtime.

Je ſuis, Madame, & je ſerai toujours,
Avec une reſpect infini,
Votre, &c.

A Madame la Marquiſe de Croiſſy.

De Whitehall, ce 7me Janvier, V.S. 1712.

JE vous jure, Madame, que je rougis de honte, quand je ſonge à la peine que vous avez priſe, pour me faire avoir les deux plus jolies bagatelles que j'ai jamais vu. L'ouvrier a eu tort, Madame, en ne pas comprenant qu'une tabatière de bois fut de mon gout. Quand l'intérieur eſt beau, il n'y a rien qui me charme comme une ſimplicité pas dehors, & je connois bien de gens qui feroient infiniment meilleure figure dans le monde s'ils reſembloient un peu plus à cette tabatière.

Au reſte, Madame, il ne faut pas que je vous importune de toutes les façons, il eſt tems que je finiſſe ma lettre en vous ſuppléant de croire que je ſuis, avec tout le reſpect & tout l'attachement poſſible,

Madame, votre, &c.

Je prends la liberté de vous envoyer, Madame, de l'eau de miel, de l'eau de Barbades, & du vin d'Eſpagne, qui réuſſiront, j'eſpère, mieux que le cidre.

From

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

January 14th, 1712-13.

I VENTURE this letter by way of Dunkirk, to tell you that his Grace of Shrewſbury arrived here yeſterday, and has had a conference with Monſieur de Torcy this morning; his Grace goes to Verſailles or Marli (for which of the two is not yet determined) on Monday, after which you will hear from us: in the mean time, we daily expect to hear from your Lordſhip, in anſwer to the two points of Newfoundland and commerce, which is the occaſion of troubling you with this at 12 at night, January 14th, 1713.

Yours,

M. PRIOR.

To Mr. Prior.

DEAR MATT,

Whitehall, January 7th, O.S. 1712.

THERE is a very formal diſpatch, in anſwer to every paragraph of your letters begun, but buſineſs intervenes, and this courier goes to-morrow morning, ſo that you muſt, *pour le coup*, be ſatisfied with this ſhort *billet-doux*. The ſubſtance however, of every thing material is in my letter to the Duke of Shrewſbury. You have before you but two points of view of conſequence, finiſh them well, the other matters cannot be finiſhed ill.

We ſhall ſend a courier to Spain, on Saturday, he paſſes by Paris, and by him you ſhall have the letter which I intended by this opportunity to have ſent you. Adieu.

The truffles were good; I gave them the Queen, ſhe liked them, wiſhed they had been marbré within, I give you the hint. I enquire of Sir T. Hanmer, after your private life. Again, Adieu.

I am ever yours.

May I take leave to aſſure my Lady Ducheſs of my moſt humble ſervices?

A Monſieur de Torcy.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 7me Janvier, V.S. 1712-13.

IL ne faut pas que le courier du Duc d'Aumont part ſans qu'il vous porte de mes nouvelles. J'ai goûté trop long-tems de la douceur de votre correſpondance, pour pouvoir conſentir à en être privé; & de tous les avantages que Dieu, la nature, ou la fortune, ont donné a Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury, celui que je lui envie le plus eſt de ſe trouver dans une ſituation où il vous voit tous les jours, & où à tous momens il peut jouir de votre converſation.

J'eſpère, Monſieur, que les diſputes entre Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires ſeront, à l'heure qu'il eſt, finies, puiſqu'il m'a paru par les lettres que j'ai reçu du 10me d'Utrecht, qu'on commençoit à s'approcher ſur cet article du traité de commerce, qui a été le principal ſujet de leurs différents, & qui peut-être n'a jamais été trop bien éclairci, de part ni d'autre.

Il y a de certaines choſes qui ne ſont de conſéquence que parce qu'on les diſpute, la différence entre les termes *cedendis* & *reſtituendis*, entre *aſſumpſit* & *uſurpavit* ou *arrogavit*, n'eſt pas fort eſſentielle; les eſprits ne ſont pourtant un peu aigris dans la diſpute, & il a falu prendre quelque

peine

peine pour convaincre de certains gens que la choſe ne méritoit aucune attention.

Depuis que j'ai ſu que le Duc de Shrewſbury a paſſé la mer, j'ai eu l'eſprit en repos ; finiſſez au nom de Dieu avec lui, & quand vous aurez fini, écrivez de concert aux Plénipotentiaries à Utrecht. Je compte que les points que nous avons eu à démêler avec la cour d'Eſpagne ſont terminés par la facilité que la Reine a donnée. Ainſi, Monſieur, ſa Majeſté pourra ouvrir la ſéance du Parlement, en parlant de la négociation avec la France & l'Eſpagne comme conclue.

Je ne ſais s'il n'y a quelques-uns encore parmi les miniſtres d'Hollande, qui ſe flattent de pouvoir brouiller les affaires, par les intrigues qu'ils continuent à trâmer avec les factieux des deux Chambres. Je vous avoue que je ne le crains pas, & je fonde mes aſſurances, non-ſeulement ſur la fermeté qui ſe trouvera ici, mais auſſi ſur la droiture & ſur la modération qui ſe rencontrera de votre côté.

Il eſt tems de finir & la négociation & ma lettre, en vous aſſurant que je ſuis, & que je ſerai toute ma vie,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

B.

To Lord Lexington.

My Lord,

Whitehall, January 7th, 1712.

I HAVE waited for the opportunity of writing to you which now offers, and which I embrace with pleaſure.

By the papers incloſed, your Lordſhip will ſee that the Queen has gone the utmoſt length ſhe is able, in her compliance with the King of Spain,

and your Lordſhip will pleaſe to make the Miniſters at Madrid ſenſible of this, as I think we have made the Marquis de Monteleon.

In ſhort, my Lord, there is no more time to be loſt, and we muſt either agree on theſe overtures, or we may be carried into another campaign.

As the Spaniards are very uneaſy under the article of 15 *per cent.* ſo it is to be hoped they will readily ſubmit to thoſe terms which are ſtated as the equivalents for it, and then our eſſential points are concluded.

The bargain made for ſix French ſhips to trade to the South Sea, gets wind, and makes the noiſe, and has the effect, which your Lordſhip may imagine; it is of abſolute neceſſity to prevent the execution of this contract, which would have the moſt miſchievous conſequences, by reviving all thoſe jealouſies that firſt cauſed, and afterwards animated the war, and that are hardly yet extinguiſhed. The Queen does her part, and I may ſay, the court of Spain will be left without excuſe, if they perſiſt in a meaſure ſo dangerous, ſo deſtructive of their true intereſt, and ſo repugnant to their ancient maxims. Once more, my Lord, it is high time to conclude; the Parliament ſtands now prorogued to the third of February, O.S. the Queen muſt ſpeak of her intereſts as determined with France and Spain; ſhould the negociation afterwards appear to be ſtill open, nobody can anſwer for the conſequence.

I cannot help thinking that it is deſirable, as ſoon as Mr. Gilligan and the commiſſioners appointed to confer with him have agreed, that this agreement ſhould be drawn into form, ſigned by your Lordſhip and a Spaniſh Miniſter, and ſent by the courier who brings this diſpatch immediately hither. And now, my Lord, give me leave to ſay, as your humble ſervant, I muſt take part in the ſatisfaction you will feel, and in the honour you will have, by concluding matters of ſo great importance to the ſervice of the Queen, and to the laſting advantage of our country.

I hope

I hope and I perſuade myſelf that Mr. Clemente * has been of uſe to your Lordſhip, in which caſe I make no doubt of your being a kind patron to him. The Marquis de Monteleon has promiſed me to recommend him to his Court, and if the impreſſions which I heard were given of him, ſuch a recommendation will not be unſeaſonable.

The Dutch, the Emperor himſelf, and the other allies, begin now to treat, and will I believe, conclude a peace, ſince a war is no longer practicable; but I doubt their pretenſions are higher than the conjuncture which their obſtinacy has produced, will admit of.

I am, my Lord, &c.

From Mr. Prior.

My Lord,

Paris, January 8th-19th, 1713.

IMMEDIATELY upon my Lord Duke's arrival, I ſhowed his Grace the propoſals I had given to this Court as an overture for our commerce, as likewiſe thoſe which I received from Monſieur Deſmarais, upon which I expect your Lordſhip's obſervations and directions; what Monſieur Deſmarais has ſince ſaid to me, and Monſieur de Torcy to his Grace, is juſt an explanation of the ſame thing: that the French uſe other nations as they do their own ſubjects; which, on the contrary, they do not, requiring from all ſtrangers and aliens, duties, &c. and having laid higher duties than any other people in Europe, upon all nations whatſoever; and conſequently that the French, upon the foot of *gens amiciſſima*, could promiſe themſelves no other certitude than that the uſage they would receive from us, in relation to what others receive, would be tolerable, but in relation to what we ſhould receive

* The reader will recollect that Clemente was the diſcoverer of Count Gallas's proceedings.

from them it would be very unequal. That they never intended to give the tariff of 1664 to the Dutch, without ſome conſiderable exceptions, particularly that of cloth and ſerges; ſo that if they could allow us the certain advantages of this tarif, while they lie under the uncertainties into which our propoſal would throw them, we ſhould not, however, obtain what we aim at, which they think is to pour immediately into France ſuch vaſt quantities of cloth as would glut their markets at preſent, and overſtock them for ſeveral years to come. The reaſon, ſay they again, why they treat with the Dutch upon 1664, is, that ſince that time the States have not augmented their imports upon French goods, yet the courſe of the French commerce, and their reaſons of ſtate, have obliged them, as your Lordſhip hears often enough from Utrecht, to except to the Dutch ſome ſpecies out of the tarif juſt now mentioned. The ſame reſerve they had in the treaty of commerce with Holland, at Ryſwick, article 12:

L'on fera un nouveau tarif commun, & ſuivant la convenance réciproque, dans le tems de trois mois; & cependant le tarif de l'an 1667 *ſera exécuté par proviſion: & en cas qu'on ne convienne pas dans le dit tems du dit tarif nouveau, le tarif de l'an* 1664 *aura lieu pour l'avenir.*

Now, ſay they, the Engliſh have increaſed their impoſts upon French goods almoſt every Parliament ſince 1664; if, therefore, they fix that year as the epoch from whence their commerce ſhall be dated, in relation to that of this kingdom, there muſt be a *réciprocité* on both ſides as to the time: Monſieur Deſmarais inſiſts, that even then the balance lay evidently on the Engliſh ſide. This, upon the whole, they propoſe as the baſis upon which our commerce may reciprocally reſt, and to which both nations ſhould endeavour to bring it. That proviſional articles may be drawn up accordingly, to be inſerted in a treaty of commerce, in which all other national points may be adjuſted, and a time therein ſpecified, in which both nations ſhall en-

deavour to bring their acts of parliament and edicts to this certain point.

The farm of tobacco*, they insist, is an annual fund, appropriated to the King's use, and more certain as to its produce than any other in France; and that our merchants, in this case, have no other reason to complain than their own, being both upon equal foot.

The matter of Consuls they will, I see, reject; none of that kind, as they say, being allowed in this nation; and they desiring to have none with us, all mercantile disputes being referable to the Ministers which each nation may respectively have in the Court of the other: but this is only what I have gathered in discourse with them, and shall represent or drop as you please to send me her Majesty's commands.

I send your Lordship, by the Duke of Shrewsbury's knowledge and direction, the inclosed memoir †, concerning Newfoundland, as his Grace sends it to my Lord Dartmouth.

I am ever, my Lord, your Lordship's, &c.

M. Prior.

Matt

* In France, the taxes and duties were farmed, in the same manner as our post-horse tax.

† *From Monsieur de Torcy, January* 14 *and* 17, *in relation to Newfoundland.*

"That when the French gave up to the Queen the property of Newfoundland, they still reserved to themselves the right of fishing, as specified in the preliminary.

"That in all which passed since, they have constantly repeated and insisted upon the right thus reserved.

"That they have as constantly asserted their right to Cape Breton, and have never receded from it.

"That the fishery of Cape Breton is insufficient, with relation to the extent of that coast; and that it is not of the same kind with that which they still reserved to themselves on the coast of Newfoundland.

"That the Newfoundland fishery is absolutely necessary for the support of the kingdom in general, and more particularly for the subsistance of the maritime provinces of West France, where thousands of families would be reduced to beggary, in case that fishery be taken from them, and will suffer very much by the concessions already made.

"That if, as they take for granted, we propose to extend and advance our own fishery, we have actually done it, both as to Newfoundland and Acadie (1); but if, on the other hand, we propose utterly to destroy their fishing trade, it is what from the first they never intended to submit, and to which they never can consent.

(1) Nova Scotia.

"In

Matt to Henry.

Paris, January 12th-23rd, 1713.

I HAVE heard no more from the Congreſs at Utrecht, than if it were the council of Jeruſalem; what laſt I had from thence, I faithfully transfered to you, expecting your orders thereupon; if you agree with the propoſal of Newfoundland, which is the ſame you and I *(N.B.* this is Matt and Harry) laid down; and if we can take 1664 for our plan, in order to reduce the traffic to that æra, the peace is made: otherwiſe, I ſee no ſhore; not but that I am ready to ſwim as long as you pleaſe in *alto mari* or *ſuper altum mare*, for that you remember was a point of grammar long diſcuſſed; as are ſome other points, *arrogavit*, or *aſſumpſit*, &c.—*Parlons d'autres choſes.*

I cannot thank you enough for the great confidence and prevention in which I find the Duke of Shrewſbury in regard to me, and my endeavours to ſerve him, which I know is owing to your good offices; pray go on with this piece of friendſhip to me, in teſtifying to his Grace, as you may think fit, how ſenſible I am of every particular mark and inſtance of his goodneſs: and pray be aſſured that I ſhall behave myſelf to him, as becomes the man whom you have recommended as your friend.

" In caſe therefore it may not be thought fit to accept the propoſition as ſent by Mr. Prior, but that the Duke of Shrewſbury ſhall adhere to his laſt inſtruction, as it may be very reaſonably apprehended that theſe people, rather than quit Newfoundland entirely, will ſtick to the general right of fiſhing, reſerved to them in the preliminary article, ſtill aſſerting their property to Cape Breton, as never given up; or yet if they hold us to the article, though they give up Cape Breton, having their eye ſtill upon ſome other place or places in the iſlands of the Gulph of St. Lawrence, to fortify, and thereby facilitate their commerce to Canada; in either of theſe caſes, and upon the whole that has been written upon this ſubject, her Majeſty's final orders for the determining this article, are deſired."

I have

I have made your compliments to my Lady Ducheſs, and thank you for the hint as to the *marbré* in truffles. *Non ſunt contemnenda quaſi parva ſine quibus magna conſtare non poſſunt.*

Monſieur de Torcy is very kind to poor Calandrine, and ſo I think will Deſmarais be.

Adieu; your's ever,

M. PRIOR.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, January 12th-23rd, 1712.

I TAKE this opportunity of acknowledging the favour of your Lordſhip's of the 7th, O.S. which I received this morning; I hope the diſpatch in form which you promiſe me, will ſet us right in our two great points, of Newfoundland and commerce; as to the firſt, what the Duke of Shrewſbury and myſelf have writ the 8th-19th, will ſhow your Lordſhip the ſentiment and concern of your friend Torcy on that head; and as to the ſecond, I ſhould be very glad if the *amiciſſima gens* be ſo far ſettled at Utrecht, as your Lordſhip ſeems to infer; I have not heard from thence, otherwiſe than *viâ Whitehallicâ*; and what I have already writ to your Lordſhip on that ſubject, ſhows, that the Miniſters here tend to another principle, viz. a reciprocal regard to the year and tarif of 1664. I believe the orders upon theſe two heads are already diſpatched, and what I now write, is to deſire your inſtant orders, and to aſſure you of my being, with great reaſon and ſtrong inclination,

My Lord, your Lordſhip's, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To Mr. Prior.

DEAR MATT,

Whitehall, January 19th, 1712-13.

THE long epiſtle * which comes with this, was writ in anſwer to part of your diſpatches, and ſhould have gone at leaſt ten days ago to you; I doubt a great deal of it is not to the purpoſe, eſpecially ſince the Queen's ultimate reſolution, and the laſt expedient ſhe can propoſe, comes by this courier to my Lord Duke; however, it is writ, and had as good be burnt by you as by me.

We cannot perſuade ourſelves here, that the French act either fairly or wiſely †; they ſeem to preſs us to conclude, that they may have others at their mercy, and at the ſame time, they chicane with us concerning the moſt eſſential article of all our treaty, and endeavour to elude an agreement made, repeated, confirmed.

We do not deſire to be treated as *amiciſſima gens*, nor to have the advantages of the tarif of 1664, until we have taken off prohibitions and duties to ſuch a degree, as to put their merchants here on as good a foot as thoſe of other nations ‡; but can they, in the name of God, believe us weak enough to imagine that we ſhall ever obtain this tarif, if we conſent to defer our claim to it until their Commiſſioners and ours ſhall have agreed upon a proportionable book of rates for Britain? Indeed, the fallacy is too groſs; and, for my own part, I would ſooner adviſe the Queen to give her juſt pretenſions up on this head, than to ſuffer herſelf to be cozened out of them.

* This is printed in Lord Hardwicke's Collection of State Papers, vol. ii. p. 504. It is omitted in the Copies of Letters by Mr. Hare; probably, becauſe the Queen had altered her intentions, and this letter was not acted upon: the Editor has therefore omitted it here.

† The fact appears to have been, that the French Miniſter kept off, upon a ſuppoſition that the Britiſh Cabinet dared not meet the Parliament until the peace was concluded, or at leaſt, until the intereſt of Great Britain had been definitively aſcertained.

‡ Lord Hardwicke obſerves, that this was the clauſe in the Commercial Treaty which occaſioned its rejection in Parliament, the great body of Merchants being againſt it.

I muſt tell you, that, ſome how or other, a little air is gone abroad of this diſpute, not enough to make the public maſters of the particulars, but enough to give hopes to the Whigs, who begin to ſay, that they know France refuſes already to keep touch with the Queen.

But there is another ſubject on which they triumph more; their letters from Holland inform them, that the French Miniſters declare againſt thoſe propoſals relating to the Elector of Bavaria, which my Lord Strafford opened as overtures, likely to be made by France, and approved by the Queen. Should this be the caſe, and ſome papers put into my hands by the Duke d'Aumont, make me ſuſpect it will be ſo, the French will indeed embarras us, but they will ſpoil their own game too.

I have exhauſted all my ſtock of argument in the long letter which by the Queen's order I wrote to the Duke of Shrewſbury; to you I can only add, that we ſtand indeed on the brink of a precipice, but the French ſtand there too. Pray tell Monſieur de Torcy from me, that he may get Robin and Harry hanged *, but affairs will ſoon run backward into ſo much confuſion, that he will wiſh us alive again; to ſpeak ſeriouſly, unleſs the Queen can talk of her intereſt as determined with France, and unleſs your Court will keep our allies in the wrong, as they are ſufficiently at this time, I foreſee inextricable difficulties.

My ſcheme is this: let France ſatisfy the Queen, and let the Queen immediately declare, both to her Parliament and in the Congreſs, that ſhe is ready to ſign; at the ſame time, let the French Plenipotentiaries ſhow a diſpoſition to conclude with all the allies, offer to the Dutch which they have already offered, referring the four ſpecies to commiſſaries; offer to Pruſſia, and the other German Princes, whoſe intereſts admit of little diſpute, complete ſatisfaction; yield to Savoy the ſmall conteſted article, which they muſt confeſs is neceſſary, to give him the *ſureté réelle* ſo fre-

* Oxford and Bolingbroke.

quently promiſed; conſent to our propoſition in behalf of Portugal; content themſelves for Bavaria, which what my Lord Strafford opened, and even offer to treat with the Emperor, if expedients may be found to ſoften him on this and other heads.

If ſuch overtures as theſe were not inſtantly accepted, our ſeparate peace would, ſitting the Parliament, be addreſſed for, made, approved, and the cauſe of France for once become popular in Britain.

If they were accepted, let Monſieur de Torcy ſit down, and conſider what a bargain would be made for France; let him remember his journey to the Hague, and compare the plans of 1709 * and 1712. You imagine we are, and ſhall be, in pain, till we receive your anſwers to theſe letters; ſhould you fail our expectations, we muſt begin to act a new part.

Monſieur de Torcy has a confidence in you, make uſe of it once for all upon this occaſion, and convince him thoroughly that we muſt give a different turn to our Parliament, and our people, according to their reſolution at this criſis.

Adieu; whether I have writ ſenſe or not, you will know, I am ſure I do not; the inceſſant labour of four or five days, at committees, at conferences, in dictating, in writing, has almoſt crazed,

Your faithful friend,

BOLINGBROKE.

P.S. I think we have ſet things on a good foot with the Marquis de Monteleon, and am hopeful that we ſhall have nothing to do but to ſign, at the return of the courier now diſpatched.

* The preliminaries fabricated by the Penſionary Heinſius.

To the Duke of Shrewſbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, January 19th, 1712-13.

UPON a full and mature conſideration of the letters which we have received from my Lords the Plenipotentiaries, as well as thoſe which are come to my Lord Dartmouth's hands from your Grace, and to mine from Mr. Prior, her Majeſty has reſolved to take the negociation, if poſſible, out of that circle in which it ſeems to have travelled round for ſome time, to no other purpoſe than to perplex the cauſe, to ſour the minds of both ſides, and to laviſh away time, which ought, in our circumſtances, to be huſbanded with the utmoſt frugality.

The matters in diſpute having been chiefly treated at Utrecht, and theſe tranſactions having by conſequence gone through my hands, it fell likewiſe to my ſhare, to communicate upon this occaſion the Queen's ſenſe, and her ultimate reſolution, to your Grace.

Her Majeſty, my Lord, obſerves, that there remain but two points of any moment relating to the intereſts of Great Britain and France, undetermined; one in the treaty of commerce, and the other in the treaty of peace; and by what I am directed to ſay, your Grace will perceive, that the French, by accepting the overtures made to them upon the firſt, may conclude both at the ſame time.

In the articles ſigned by Monſieur de Torcy, in June laſt, which were, I believe, delivered to your Grace, and a copy whereof, for greater certainty, I here incloſe, it is expreſsly agreed, that Great Britain and France ſhall grant to the ſubjects of each crown reciprocally the ſame privileges and advantages with which they ſhall favour any foreign nation whatſoever; upon this foundation is the eighth article in the treaty of commerce drawn;

and

and here the French have a ſecond time eſtabliſhed this principle, in the moſt comprehenſive and poſitive terms; we are reciprocally to enjoy the ſame privileges, liberties, and immunities, *quibus amiciſſima quævis gens utitur, fruitur, gaudetque, aut in poſterum uti frui aut gaudere poſſit*; this principle is again confirmed, by a proviſional clauſe, even in the ninth article itſelf; but then this article ſtipulates at the ſame time, in the beginning, that commiſſioners ſhall meet, *quorum operâ commerciorum hac in parte impedimentis tollendis & vectigalibus componendis media æqua & utrinque utilia inveniantur & ſtabiliantur*, and declares in the end, that it has been likewiſe thought fit to leave to the commiſſioners *alia quædam longioris indaginis momenta diſcutienda*, to this purpoſe *ut utriuſque partis rationibus & commodis de iiſdem quantocius conveniri queat*.

The tenth article gives to her Majeſty's ſubjects the advantages of the tarif of 1664, which having been promiſed to the Dutch, was, indeed, already virtually granted to them by the eighth article, but there is an exception of ſuch merchandiſe as it has been thought fit to refer the diſcuſſion of to the commiſſioners appointed in the foregoing article.

Theſe ſtipulations, the courſe of which I have abſtracted, and your Grace will more at large conſider in the treaty itſelf, have all along appeared to her Majeſty ambiguous, and contrived, indirectly, to deprive her ſubjects of that, which having been ſolemnly promiſed, could not be directly refuſed; they have therefore never been approved by her; and the event has abundantly ſhown the Queen's ſuſpicion to be juſt, and her caution reaſonable; the Miniſters of France being now driven from that artifice, under the cover of which they hoped to conceal their real meaning, do actually go back from what the King promiſed the Queen, and in terms refuſe to ſtand to the principle of treating, and being treated, *ut amiciſſima gens*.

We are not, it ſeems, to have the tarif of 1664, and to be treated in France as well as the Dutch, when we treat the French, in Great Britain,

Britain, as well as we treat any other nation; but we are to have this tarif in France, when we can frame another in Great Britain exactly proportioned to it, for ſo Monſieur de Torcy explains himſelf, in the paper which he gave Mr. Prior, upon the ſeventh of this month, N.S.

My Lord, the Queen looks on this proceeding to be a direct violation of faith; and I believe when your Grace ſpeaks again to the Miniſters, you will not think fit to give it a much ſofter term: they ſhould be made to underſtand, that they are removing a corner-ſtone, which was laid early in the foundation of a building brought almoſt to perfection, and the fall whereof muſt prove of at leaſt as fatal conſequences to them as to us.

The arguments made uſe of by thoſe Gentlemen, as I find them in Mr. Prior's letters, are, in good meaſure, anſwered by the papers which your Grace carried over; but I confeſs I was ſtrangely ſurpriſed, when I ſaw the precedent of the Ryſwick treaty quoted; the behaviour of the French upon that occaſion has given us warning; it is from thence we have learned that whatever is referred is given up; and they muſt have a mean opinion of thoſe whom they would perſuade to purſue, in order to get the tarif of 1664, the method by which the Dutch at that time loſt it.

But were their arguments never ſo cogent, they are now no longer in ſeaſon; had Monſieur Deſmaretz formerly urged, that treating the ſubjects of France in Great Britain as well as the ſubjects of any other nation, was no equivalent for giving to the ſubjects of Great Britain in France, the tarif of 1664, the debate had been proper; it is not the ſame now, they have conſented to the principle of *amiciſſima gens*, they have promiſed the tarif above-mentioned to the Dutch, they muſt by conſequence break their words, or give it to the Queen, and all their refinements upon trade come now too late.

Upon the whole matter, the ſingle queſtion is this: whether we ſhall enjoy the tarif of 1664 within a reaſonable time after we take off our prohibitions, and reduce the duties on French goods to a proper proportion with

thoſe of the ſame ſorts imported from other countries; and whether we ſhall be denied the benefit of the ſaid tarif, until a number of French commiſſioners are ſatisfied that our book of rates is made proportionable to theirs?

Your Grace, will ſee, by a letter of my Lords the Plenipotentiaries, of the tenth of this month, N.S. an extract whereof goes herewith incloſed, that the French Miniſters at Utrecht, do now explain themſelves more agreably to their engagements than thoſe at Paris; they allow and expect the rule of *amiciſſima gens*; they allow us immediately the tarif of 1664, in all points except the four ſpecies, and if the Dutch obtain any alteration in reſpect to theſe, we are to participate thereof; they are contented to wait till our duties on their commodities can be reduced to the proportion paid on the like goods brought into Britain by other nations: all they deſire to have referred to commiſſioners, is the conſideration of our demands about the four ſpecies, and about other points, not included in the general principle of *amiciſſima gens*.

Now, my Lord, though the ſtipulations which ſtand in the treaty of commerce, as above recited, do not ſeem to her Majeſty clearly to ſpeak this language, nor to expreſs what theſe Gentlemen ſay they intend, yet it is no hard matter to take off all ambiguity; and upon this very foot, and upon no other, the Queen will agree with France.

I am therefore commanded to acquaint your Grace, that having fully opened to the French Miniſters, her Majeſty's ſenſe of the King's engagements to her upon this head, and of the preſent ſtate of this diſpute, you are to propoſe to them to ſtrike out of the project of the treaty of commerce the ninth and tenth articles, and inſtead thereof to inſert one to the effect of that which I have drawn, and which comes here incloſed; by this article they are made to give nothing but what we affirm, and ſure no man living can deny, they have already ſolemnly yielded; a commiſſion will be eſtabliſhed to adjuſt thoſe points which may remain undetermined

at the concluſion of the treaty, and an opportunity will be created of ſettling in time a ſyſtem of commerce, ſtill more reaſonable than that which will be in force at firſt.

If the French cloſe with this overture, her Majeſty is willing to accept of the laſt expedient propoſed by Monſieur de Torcy, for adjuſting our differences about North America, and to conſent that the King in the ceſſion of Newfoundland, do reſerve to his ſubjects, a right of fiſhing and drying on the coaſt of that iſland, from Point Riche, north about, to Cape Bonaviſta. But if your Grace cannot prevail upon them to agree with you in the article of commerce, you are to declare to them, that neither will the Queen agree with them in their propoſition concerning Newfoundland.

It is, my Lord, of abſolute neceſſity, that a moment of time be not loſt on the part of France in coming to a reſolution, ſince your Grace may depend upon it, that our Parliament muſt ſit on the third of February next, and her Majeſty will be then obliged to communicate the preſent ſtate of the negociation to both Houſes. Your Grace will expreſs to Monſieur de Torcy, much better than I am able to do to you, how ſmoothly every thing would glide along, if the Queen was able to ſpeak of her own intereſts as abſolutely determined with France; and, on the other hand, what traverſes we ſhall be expoſed to, and what confuſion may ariſe, if our negociation appears to be ſtill open, and if the ſecret comes to be divulged, that France refuſes to make good in the treaty, the full effect of former promiſes to the Queen.

Having now finiſhed all which I had in command to ſay to your Grace, concerning her Majeſty's particular intereſts, I am to ſpeak to you upon the general plan of peace, and to inform your Grace, that you may inform the miniſters of France, what the meaſure of her Majeſty's conduct will be, and what they may expect from her.

You know, my Lord, very well, that the rule which the Queen

long ago laid down, was not to delay her peace, after the ungenerous and ungrateful treatment which ſhe had met with from her allies, if they perſiſted in refuſing to treat; but the French were at the ſame time told, that if the confederates ſhould ſubmit, and ſhow a readineſs to proceed in the negociation of peace, her Majeſty would then be obliged in juſtice to keep meaſures with them. In ſhort, that her conduct muſt be regulated to a great degree upon theirs.

This reſolution, which the Queen continues to think agreeable to her honour and her intereſt, is ſtill in force, and muſt therefore be applied to the preſent caſe.

Her Majeſty inclines the rather to have the French Miniſters reminded of this, becauſe they ſeem, notwithſtanding the concurrence of the Dutch, and, I may add, of the Emperor too, and although the allies are grown more reaſonable in their demands, ſtill to deſire that the Queen ſhould precipitate the concluſion of her peace, and leave the whole confederacy at their mercy. But, however the deſigns and meaſures of the French Court may vary, and their Miniſters be elated with a little turn of fortune, the Queen goes ſteadily on, and ſpeaks the ſame language to them now as ſhe did in Auguſt. Your Grace will therefore let the King know, that when the mutual intereſts of England and France are ſettled, as they will be if the propoſitions contained in the firſt part of this letter are accepted, the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain ſhall publicly declare in the Congreſs, that they are ready to ſign with France, and ſhall therefore call upon the allies to quicken their negociation, and conclude without loſs of time; that, in order to render this peace general, and to finiſh the treaty with the ſame candour and generous deſire of reſtoring the peace of Europe with which it was begun, her Majeſty expects that the Plenipotentiaries of France ſhould, at the ſame time, inſtead of avoiding to confer with the Miniſters of the confederate powers, ſhow a readineſs to treat

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with all of them; and, laying aſide the ſpirit of negociation, as ſoon poſſible, to cloſe their great work. And, upon reviewing the preſent ſtate of the differences between France and the ſeveral allies, the Queen does not ſee that the general peace can be long deferred, if all parties meet with a good diſpoſition to bring it about. If the confederates ſhould either ſeek unneceſſary delays, or make unreaſonable demands, which, in the preſent circumſtances of their affairs, it is not very probable they will, her Majeſty, who has induced them to treat, will, by the ſame meaſures, engage them to conclude; at leaſt, ſhe will think herſelf juſtified, after theſe repeated warnings, and this unexampled patience, to ſign without them in this caſe, as ſhe would have done had they ſtill continued directly to refuſe to treat at all. Your Grace will pleaſe to add, that, to make theſe meaſures effectual, nothing will be wanting but that the Miniſters of France be inſtructed to treat in the ſame ſpirit; not to try the common expedients of negociation, but to go at once all thoſe lengths which the deſire of peace may render eligible.

I have the honour to tranſmit to your Grace, incloſed, copies of papers which I received from the Plenipotentiaries of the Duke of Savoy, and which contain a propoſition that may, in all probability, at laſt put an end to the diſpute between the Miniſters of France and thoſe of his Royal Highneſs. Her Majeſty thinks thoſe ſmall and inconſiderable diſtricts of country which this Prince demands, in order to make Exilles, Feneſtrelles, and the Valley of Pragelas, of any uſe to him, abſolutely neceſſary; and the French Miniſters themſelves have indeed acquieſced that the neceſſity is real, and not affected, when they offered to agree at Utrecht, as an expedient for accommodating this diſpute, that France ſhould engage not to canton troops at any time in the villages on the Italian ſide of the Mount Genevre.

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Thus, your Grace ſees, the king of France cannot make good to his Royal Highneſs that *ſureté réelle* which he promiſed to all the allies, unleſs he yield to this demand, which he therefore ought to do, without any equivalent, and therefore the uſing or not uſing of that which I now communicated to you, is entirely ſubmitted to your own prudence.

In the papers given in by the Duke d'Aumont, your Grace will find a very extraordinary turn given to the article relating to the Elector of Bavaria; as if the Queen had accepted, as a condition of the ceſſion of Tournay, the extravagant demands which this Prince makes; nay, as if her Majeſty had promiſed the King to procure the effect of them. How far the Queen went in this matter, your Grace is fully appriſed. She was willing, in conſideration of the King, as well as in regard to the unhappy circumſtances of this Prince, to contribute to make the beſt bargain in the treaty of peace for him, which his and our circumſtances would admit: and, therefore directed the Earl of Strafford to make an overture in the name of France, which was the utmoſt ſhe expected to obtain, and which has already ſet all the Princes of the empire in arms; the Queen can do no more, and if the Elector is not ſatisfied to be treated for upon this foot, the Queen will intereſt herſelf no farther in his affairs, and he may very probably by thoſe means fail of Sardinia, and continue an exile both from his German Provinces, and the Electoral College.

Your Grace will pleaſe to explain the Queen's ſentiments very ſtrongly, and ſhow the Miniſters that inſtead of graſping at any more for this Prince, the wiſeſt meaſure that can be taken for his intereſt, is to think of means to bring the powers concerned into the ſcheme already propoſed for him, or into equivalents for the ſame.

Her Majeſty obſerves, no diſpute remaining with France, about the intereſt of the States-General, unleſs it be as to the four ſpecies, it were to be wiſhed that matter might be compounded; at worſt, if that cannot be obtained, the Queen being willing to refer the conſideration of them

as far as her intereſt therein is concerned, to commiſſioners, the Dutch can never refuſe to do the ſame.

Monſieur Bruchiarde* was this day at a conference, which he had deſired, with the Lords at the Cockpit, and the ſubſtance of what he opened is, that the King his maſter reſigns himſelf and his intereſts entirely to the Queen; that he only deſires his terms may be adjuſted by her, and not left to the treaty at Utrecht; that he will ſign his peace whenever ſhe thinks proper to ſign hers; that he knows her Majeſty cannot, in the preſent circumſtances of affairs, get all that ſhe would for him; that he will be ſatisfied with whatever ſhe can obtain; that he hopes to have ſome barrier, or, if not, a guaranty which ſhall be an equivalent ſecurity. He touched upon the demolition of Badajos, and ſeemed rather to wiſh than hope for Vigo; after which he let himſelf in to ſpeak of thoſe provincial treaties, extracts† whereof he had put into my Lord Dartmouth's hands, and copies of thoſe extracts are herewith tranſmitted to your Grace.

By this account, my Lord, you ſee how great an obſtacle will be taken out of the way, and how far her Majeſty's credit, and her good offices go every day, in procuring new facilities to render the general peace practicable; the Queen would have your Grace, without ſhowing Mon-

* The Portugal Miniſter.

† Theſe extracts (the originals of which the Editor has) ſtate, "That by a proviſional treaty made at Liſbon, in 1699, with the king of France, the two kings agreed to evacuate that diſtrict of country on the coaſt of Brazil, ſituate between the River Yapoco, and the cape north of the river of the Amazons, incluſive. That this evacuation was to continue until by a definitive treaty the claims of the parties were aſcertained.

"The other proviſional treaty ſtates, that the crown of Portugal was in poſſeſſion of the colony of le Sacrement, with its dependencies at Buenos Ayres; that about thirty years ago, and in time of peace, the Spaniards ſurpriſed this colony, but at the ſtrong ſolicitation of the court of Liſbon, that of Madrid reſtored it to Portugal, by a proviſional treaty, until the rights of the parties ſhould be aſcertained. That, however, at the commencement of this war, the Spaniards again took poſſeſſion of this colony, and ſtill retain it.

"By the alliance between France, Spain, and Portugal to guarantee the ſucceſſion according to the will of Charles II, it was propoſed that theſe proviſional treaties ſhould be definitive, but (Bruſchearde obſerves) that this would be the ſource of freſh diſputes. He concludes with aſſerting, that there is due from the Spaniards, to the Portugueſe Company del Aſſiento de Negros, a large ſum of patacas, which is not denied, that payment has been promiſed, and that it is but juſt that it ſhould be provided for in the preſent treaty."

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ſieur de Torcy too particularly how low the King of Portugal ſinks in his demands, let that Miniſter know, that the pretenſions of this ally, to whom her Majeſty is under ſtronger engagements by treaty, than almoſt to any other, ſhall not retard the concluſion of the peace; your Grace will at the ſame time ſay, that the Queen will require at leaſt the proviſional treaties to be made definitive in his favour, and that ſhe will expect particular engagements from France and Spain, for the ſecurity of his dominions in all parts of the world, of which engagements ſhe will become guarantee.

This example ſhould be a leſſon both to the Elector of Bavaria, and to thoſe who ſupport him, and her Majeſty would have your Grace urge it accordingly. Whenever ſhe can be eaſy herſelf, or contribute to make others ſo, the effect always follows, and the Queen expects that on the King of France's part, the ſame ſhould happen, eſpecially ſince we are near the end of our labours, and one effort more may probably crown them all.

The Princes of the empire have no intereſts to ſettle that will occaſion much diſpute, or take up much time, any farther than the demands made in behalf of the Elector of Bavaria come in to puzzle the cauſe; they muſt therefore be left to be wrangled out at Utrecht, and as to his Imperial Majeſty he has run himſelf into ſuch a labyrinth, that he muſt begin to help himſelf before the Queen can lend him her hand or ſpeak for him.

This rough ſketch of the general ſtate of the treaty of peace, is ſufficient at leaſt to ſhow how eaſily, and at how little farther expence the whole may be concluded; and her Majeſty commands me to repeat to your Grace, that you ſhould endeavour to make the French Miniſters feel the neceſſity either of cloſing with the allies, or of leaving them without excuſe; but the chief point which I am to recommend, and your Grace to inſiſt upon, is ſatisfying her Majeſty in the difficulty ariſen in ſettling the treaty of commerce.

The Queen complies as far as poſſibly ſhe can, without actually giving up that which has been ſo long promiſed to her, and upon the faith whereof ſhe has ſo long proceeded; it is therefore juſt that the French ſhould comply with her, the Queen having once declared her intereſts to be ſettled, and her treaty ready to be ſigned, the general peace becomes from that moment eaſy; it is therefore wiſe that the French ſhould comply with her; that they may do ſo, and that your Grace may to all the honours of your life, add the glory of giving the laſt ſtroke to this memorable negociation, is the fervent prayer of,

My Lord,

Your Grace's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Marli, le 18me Janvier, 1713, N.S.

FINISSEZ, my Lord, ce qui nous reſte encore de difficultés; il eſt tems en vérité que l'amitié ſe rétabliſſe puiſqu'on le deſire, & que les intentions ſont également bonnes de part & d'autre.

Je ne vous fatiguerai pas du détail ennuieux des conteſtations ſur la pêche & la ſécherie de Terreneuve; j'en laiſſe le ſoin à Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont & à Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury; je vous dirai ſeulement, bien franchement, que la propoſition que Matthieu vous a envoyée eſt, ſuivant le langage Allemand ou Hollandois, notre *ultimatum*.

Terminez donc nos querelles; qu'il ne ſoit plus queſtion que d'amitié; quelque étroite qu'elle puiſſe être entre les nations, vous ne devrez jamais qu'à vous-même, my Lord, celle que conſervent pour vous tous ceux qui ont eu l'honneur de vous connoître.

Je

Je crois cependant mériter encore quelque diſtinction entr'eux, perſonne n'étant plus véritablement, & plus fidellement, que je ſerai,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Monſieur De Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce 20me Janvier, V.S. 1712-13.

JE vous jure, Monſieur, que ſi nous ne finiſſons pas, ce n'eſt nullement ma faute. Je ſouhaite par mille raiſons une prompte concluſion du grand ouvrage de la paix; mais je la ſouhaite principalement parce que je vois que chez nous les eſprits commencent à ſe laſſer de l'incertitude.

Nos conteſtations à l'égard de Terreneuve ne ſeront point la pierre d'achoppement, pourvu que vous ne nous refuſiez plus long-tems dans le traité de commerce, les conſéquences d'un principe que nous avons enviſagé depuis pluſieurs mois comme établi, & hors de toute diſpute la paix ſera bientôit faite.

Il eſt inutile que j'entre dans le détail de cette affaire, qui a été terriblement brouillée à Utrecht. Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury vous informera des dernières offres que la Reine lui ordonne de faire pour accommoder ces différents, & des raiſons ſur leſquelles nous nous fondons, qui ſont aſſurément trop ſolides pour ne pas avoir tout leur effet ſur un eſprit auſſi-bien tourné, & ſur un cœur auſſi-bien placé que le vôtre.

Au nom de Dieu, Monſieur, renvoyez ce courier ſans perte de tems, avec le conſentement du Roi aux propoſitions que Monſieur de Shrewſbury aura l'honneur de lui faire de la part de la Reine. Vous nous mettrez par-là en état de triompher de ceux qui ſont en même-tems

& vos

& vos ennemis & les nôtres. Dans ce cas, la Reine parlera aux deux Chambres, dont l'aſſemblé ne peut être différée que juſques au 3me du mois prochain, V.S. des intérêts de la Grande Bretagne & de la France comme entièrement réglés; ſa Majeſté dira, qu'elle va ſigner ſon traité, qu'elle a convié tous ſes alliés à faire de même, & qu'elle leur a déclaré qu'elle eſt fermément réſolue de ne pas tenir ſa négociation plus long-tems ouverte.

Convenez avec moi, Monſieur, que l'écho de cette harangue, & des réponſes du Parlement, ſe fera entendre à Utrecht, & inſpirera l'amour de la paix aux guerriers les plus outrés. Vous finirez bien vîte les affaires qui reſtent à être ajuſtées, & vous les finirez à la ſatisfaction du Roi.

Mais ſi à l'aſſemblée du Parlement notre négociation ſe trouve encore ouverte, je ne ſaurai, en vérité, Monſieur, répondre des ſuites.

Les mal-intentionnés auront beau jeu; &, ce que je regarde comme le comble des malheurs, les bien-intentionnés ſe trouveront peut-être obligés de ſuivre les ſentimens d'autres.

Monſieur d'Oxford & votre ſerviteur ont la mine de paſſer, dans ce cas, aſſez mal leur tems; je m'embarraſſe pourtant beaucoup moins de cela, que du déſordre que je prévois dans les affaires générales.

Vous voyez, Monſieur, que le plaiſir que je trouve à vous écrire m'emporte.

Je veux me flatter que l'importance de la criſe où nous ſommes, ſervira d'excuſe à la longueur de ma lettre, & que vous ne trouverez pas mauvaiſe cette franchiſe avec laquelle je vous conte naturellement mes craintes & mes eſpérances.

Je ſuis, & ſerai toute ma vie,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

B.

To Mr. Gilligan *.

SIR,

Whitehall, January 25th, 1712.

I MUST begin my letter by making my compliments to you upon your great ſkill, induſtry, and ſucceſs, wherewith you have proceeded in executing her Majeſty's orders. I hope the latter, as I am ſure the former, will accompany you to the end of your negociations. We have done all we could to play the game into your hands, by gratifying the Marquis de Monteleon as far as our circumſtances allow, of which I believe he is ſenſible, and will endeavour to make his court ſo likewiſe. Mr. Moore †, writes ſo largely to you, that any thing which falls from my pen muſt be ſuperfluous; give me however leave to mention to you the caſe of licences to French ſhips. This point is capital, and I am in very good earneſt, when I ſay, that if the bargain made ſhould go on to execution, I believe it would break all to pieces, and create a new ferment in Europe, which perhaps might coſt more blood to extinguiſh.

The Queen offers fairly to prevent theſe miſchiefs, and the Spaniſh miniſter ſeems aſſured, that her offers will be taken. Time preſſes extremely, and diſpatch is of the utmoſt conſequence. We hope this courier will ſoon return, with a concluſion of things on the foot of your laſt inſtructions.

I am, Sir, &c.

* Manuel Manaſſes Gilligan, Britiſh Commiſſary at Madrid, to ſettle the treaty of commerce with Spain.

† Arthur Moore; had been Comptroller of Army Accompts, a Commiſſioner of Trade, and a Director of the Eaſt India Company; he was ſuppoſed to poſſeſs great commercial knowledge, and had the management of the treaty with Spain.

To the Duke of Shrewſbury.

My Lord,

Whitehall, January 20th, 1712-13.

YOUR Grace finds that we are, according to cuſtom, hurried to do that in a fortnight *, which naturally ſhould have been the work of a much longer time; we hope however, that the Queen's demands are now ſet in ſo fair a light, that there can be no delay on the part of France, in agreeing to them. If the Duke d'Aumont knows any thing of his own court, your Grace will carry your point, and in this caſe, I hope the courier may return in twelve days at fartheſt. It is of the laſt conſequence for them, for us, and for the whole affair, that the Queen be enabled to ſpeak of her intereſts as determined with France, one battle will then decide all; otherwiſe we ſhall be every day expoſed to new dangers throughout the whole courſe of the ſeſſion. I ſend your Grace two blank proxies, for fear of accidents.

The Queen has been out of order, with the gout in her hand and in her foot; ſhe is, however, extremely well, and her phyſician † ſeems rather to like than apprehend this attack.

I am, &c.

* The Parliament had, on the 13th, been prorogued to the 3rd of February, which was a fortnight from the date of this letter.

† Doctor Arbuthnot; a man not more remarkable for his great profeſſional ſkill than for his learning and his wit,

From the Duke of Shrewſbury.

My Lord,

Paris, January 23d, N.S. 1713.

THIS morning I received your Lordſhip's of the 7th, O.S. and a courier being juſt arrived from Port Mahon, going into England, gives me an opportunity of anſwering it ſooner than I expected.

I wiſh there be no miſtake in what our Plenipotentiaries write to your Lordſhip from Utrecht, that the French have agreed we ſhall enjoy the benefit of the tarif of 1664, on our bringing French goods to pay in England the ſame that other nations pay for their goods.

The King and the Miniſtry have been at Marli ever ſince I came hither, ſo I have had no opportunity of diſcourſing on this ſubject; but I find Mr. Prior apprehenſive this Court deſigns no more than what he has already acquainted your Lordſhip with; however, Monſieur de Torcy being expected at Paris on Thurſday, Mr. Prior or I will ſpeak with him, and if this be agreed, as you underſtand it, from Utrecht, one conſiderable difficulty is removed.

As to the other principal article in diſpute, if her Majeſty be determined to inſiſt on my laſt inſtructions, and reject the expedient Mr. Prior ſent over, I heartily wiſh he had notice of that reſolution as ſoon as it was taken; for it has had an odd appearance, and what they have difficulty to believe here, that Mr. Prior ſhould be at liberty (as undoubtedly he was) to receive this alternative, and I, who came laſt from London, ſo ſtraightly tied up, that I am obliged to declare I have no power to hearken to any expedient upon this point; it naturally leads them to ſuſpect ſome trick, or that I am more ſtiff than I need to be, and, what is worſt of all, diſcovers our irreſolution, and ſo weakens all that can be ſaid. I much queſtion, if commanded to in-

ſiſt,

ſiſt, whether this Court will yield, and if they ſhould, am convinced it will coſt a great deal of time to bring them to it, and your Lordſhip and Lord Treaſurer muſt write reſolute letters, in a manner telling them the peace can be had on no other terms: I ſhall not repeat their objections and difficultes, which were ſent you by your laſt expreſs.

I expect the next letters with impatience, as well to know what orders her Majeſty will ſend upon what remains to be treated here, as to ſee the States-General's remarks and her Majeſty's anſwer; for without them the letters give little light. I hope your Lordſhip believes your letters will always be acceptable to me, who am, with the greateſt ſincerity,

My Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, January 25th, N.S. 1713.

I AM juſt this minute come from Madame de Croiſſy, where I met Monſieur de Torcy, newly arrived from Marli, and by a very few words I had with him there, I am confirmed the article of our enjoying the benefit of the tarif of 1664 does not ſtand as your Lordſhip underſtood it from Utrecht; the French Plenipotentiaries, in their letters to him, do not look upon the difficulty as removed, but ſtill ſubſiſting: I thought fit to give you the firſt notice I could of this, though I doubt not but you have had it cleared before now by other letters from Utrecht. I am to ſee Monſieur de Torcy after to-morrow, and hope the courier you promiſed to diſpatch laſt Saturday will be arrived before that time, with orders what I am to ſay upon the article

of Newfoundland. Monſieur Deſmaret's ſon marries the Marquis d'Alegre's daughter to-morrow: the King returns from Marli Saturday, and about the 6th of next month goes to Rambouillet, a houſe of the Count de Toulouſe, which will prove another interruption to buſineſs, if what is to be done here cannot be concluded before the journey.

I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, January 25th, O.S. 1712.

THOUGH your Grace has been troubled with ſeveral of my letters in the compaſs of a few days, I cannot however reſolve to let this courier, who, in his way to Spain, paſſes through Paris, depart, and not take the opportunity of writing again to you.

Your Grace thinks the French may ſuſpect ſome trick, or diſcover, which is worſe, ſome irreſolution in our councils; becauſe Mr. Prior had conſented to a propoſition concerning Newfoundland, which you afterwards refuſed to admit. I would fain hope, my Lord, that this proceeding, which however was not according to my ſcheme, might ſtill have ſuch a turn given it, as will make our conduct appear not only fair, but ſteady.

Why may not the French Miniſters be told that the Queen would have conſented at firſt, as ſhe is ready to do now, to the ceſſion of Newfoundland, with the reſtriction propoſed, if they had not created unreaſonable and unexpected difficulties on the article of commerce?

Her Majeſty hoped they would be brought off a point which they had ſo ill a grace in controverting; and in that hope Mr. Prior was inſtructed. Her Majeſty found they perſiſted to deny in the treaty what, in the courſe of the negociation, they had granted; and in that conjuncture your Grace was inſtructed. We flatter ourſelves, my Lord, you will be able to diſſolve a charm which ſeems to have influenced in a very odd manner this point of our work. Indeed, never poor propoſition was ſo bandied about as this of uſing each other reciprocally, *ut amiciſſima gens*, has been. The French were in the right to perplex it, becauſe they had a mind to evade it; but ſurely we, from the firſt, ſhould have ſtuck to that plain article, which is contained in the papers drawn by Mr. Moore, and on which the laſt draught which I ſent your Grace is grounded.

By the incloſed paper, which was brought me as a memorandum from the Duc d'Aumont, your Grace will ſee that the French take advantage of ſome terms uſed in a memorial of my friend Matthew's. I thought it abſolutely neceſſary to knock that immediately of the head, and have therefore ſent back the paper, with the marginal note which you will find added; but upon theſe miſtakes, there is no need to trouble your Grace any farther, having writ to Mr. Prior upon them.

The courier who brings this letter, has been waiting a long time for one diſpatch, the reſt have been prepared at leaſt three weeks. I thank God, he goes at all, for I think he carries ſuch temperaments and ſuch expedients as will bring our Spaniſh part of the treaty to a concluſion.

There is one point which we write very ſtrongly to the Court of Madrid upon, and as the rebound of theſe inſtances may probably very ſoon come to Paris, I believe it not improper to ſpeak of it to your Grace, that you may either prepare the miniſters of France for it, or be prepared when they ſhall attack you upon it. My Lord, the Queen

had

had information of a contract made by the Count de Bergheyck *, for ſix French ſhips to go to the South Sea, their owners agreeing to pay the King of Spain 360,000 crowns, or elſe, at His Majeſty's choice, to give him the ſhips, in order to ſupply his Treaſury for the ſervice of this year, or in order to enable him to begin at leaſt to form a naval ſtrength.

Your Grace eaſily imagines no time was loſt in ſpeaking to the Marquis de Monteleon upon a matter of ſuch vaſt conſequence. We repreſented to him that this proceeding would revive all thoſe jealouſies which began to be laid aſleep; that it would make good all the arguments which have been inſiſted on by thoſe who preſs the continuation of the war, and condemn in the opinion of mankind thoſe who have been the inſtruments of promoting the peace, that if theſe permiſſions are granted for once after the peace, they may by the ſame rule be granted for twenty times, &c. The Marquis agreed in theſe and a multitude of other arguments which were opened and enforced to him, and had no plea but the neceſſities under which his maſter labours, to excuſe the ſtep; having brought him thus far, we offered to take off theſe neceſſities, by lending the money, and furniſhing whatever ſhips the King of Spain may have occaſion for, without expecting in conſideration hereof, the liberty of ſailing to the South Sea.

The Spaniſh miniſter ſeemed to catch at the offer, he writes to his Court about it, and Mr. Gilligan is inſtructed to make the annulling of this contract, one of the conditions on which he departs from the claim of 15 per cent. that grievous article to the Spaniards, and at the ſame time he is farther authoriſed to conclude the loan of the money, and the hiring or ſelling the ſhips.

Sir T. Hanmer having in a manner aſked, whether the Queen approved or not of his going into Italy, I writ him word by her Majeſty's

* The Spaniſh Plenipotentiary.

order

order that ſhe hoped ſhe ſhould have had his aſſiſtance in this ſeſſion of Parliament; which certainly will be a very nice and difficult one to manage, and upon the proceedings of which our all, I think, is ſtaked; I mention this matter, becauſe Sir Thomas may probably communicate to your Grace what he debates in his mind, and you would be glad to know what the Queen's ſenſe was.

I depended ſo much upon the Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, for ſending to your Grace whatever paſſes between the States and us, that I ſhould not have troubled you with a volume of papers which accompany this letter, had your Grace not ſeemed in your's of the 23d to expect them from me.

I am, my Lord, &c.

To Lord Lexington.*

My Lord,

THE foregoing letter has been writ ſeveral days, and the departure of the courier has been delayed by the Queen's having the gout in her hand, which hinders her from writing as ſhe would have done to the Queen of Spain.

The incloſed paper of minutes being the reſult of a private tranſaction which her Majeſty did not allow to paſs the ordinary forms, I deſire you, my good Lord, to keep it among your private diſpatches.

I hope Mr. Gilligan is ſufficiently inſtructed by the learned in trade, for my part, I pretend not to be able to enter into any detail of that kind, but this I can judge of, that our circumſtances will no longer admit of

* This was added by way of poſtſcript to Lord Lexington's letter of the 7th January, 1712-13 Bolingbroke.

being in a ſtate neither of war nor peace, therefore pray, my Lord, preſs him to make an end with the Spaniſh Commiſſaries, and if any reaſonable latitude be to be taken beyond what his inſtructions may ſtrictly import, my opinion is, that it ſhould be ventured upon, rather than that any thing ſhould be left undetermined.

Your Lordſhip knows how very inſtrumental the Abbot Gaultier has been in carrying on the preſent negociation of peace, even in the firſt beginnings of the treaty, when the greateſt danger was to be run, and the greateſt dexterity was requiſite. I find the Marquis de Monteleon deſigns to recommend him to the King of Spain, and I believe the Treaſurer does the ſame to the Princeſs des Urſins; I give your Lordſhip this hint, becauſe I fancy you will think it proper to take a fit opportunity of ſpeaking in his commendation, and of giving the moſt favourable impreſſions of him.

There comes with this courier a gentleman, who is of my name, and who being a Roman Catholic, has always been in foreign ſervice; he was in that of the Elector Palatine, and left it only becauſe of an affair which the brutality of his colonel forced upon him. The Elector himſelf recommended him, and, indeed, nobody could leave a better name than he did behind them. He has a mind to ſeek his fortune in Spain; and that he may have a pretence to go thither, I commit this letter to his charge. The Marquis de Monteleon has, without my ſpeaking to him, for I have nothing to aſk of any Prince, but the miſtreſs I ſerve, recommended him to the Court of Spain. Your Lordſhip will extremely add to the other favours I have received from you, if you are ſo good as to ſhow him your countenance, and to ſpeak of him as an honeſt man, a good officer, and my relation, if the latter may be of any uſe to him.

Forgive the length of my letter, and believe that I am, &c.

It was thought proper that I ſhould make a compliment to the Princeſs des Urſins, and I do it by the incloſed—May I take the liberty to beg that your Lordſhip would render it acceptable by giving it to her?

To Lord Lexington.

MY LORD,

January 25th, O.S. 1712.

THE papers * not being put up with my other letter by miſtake, I incloſe them in a ſeparate packet.

My Lord, ever your's.

A Madame la Princeſſe des Urſins †.

MADAME,

De Whitehall, ce 25me Janvier, V.S. 1712-13.

VOTRE Alteſſe peut voir juſques à quel point le Marquis de Monteleon s'eſt rendu maître de mon eſprit, puiſqu'il a ſu m'inſpirer la hardieſſe de lui écrire. Je ſais tout le cas que je dois faire de l'amitié que ce Miniſtre a bien voulu me témoigner, mais en vérité, Madame, il ne m'a jamais fait, ni ne me fera jamais une faveur que j'eſtimerai tant que celle dont il vient m'honorer, en me fourniſſant une prétexte

* Mem. Incloſed were a copy of her Majeſty's inſtructions to Mr. Gilligan, dated January 10th, 1712-13; a copy of the propoſitions made by Marquis de Monteleon; with the Queen's anſwers.

† This lady had the ambition to become a ſovereign; ſhe had received a promiſe from the King of Spain, to grant her a territory equal to 30,000 crowns *per annum*, in the Netherlands; neither England nor Holland were much againſt it, and the Spaniſh Plenipotentiaries, deſirous of pleaſing her, inſiſted on a condition which the King their maſter treated as eſſential; the peace with Spain was thus at a ſtand. At length they were obliged to abandon her, the Emperor proteſting againſt any diſmemberment of the Netherlands, and Louis perſuaded his grandſon to prefer the repoſe of his people to the caprice of an old woman.

d'écrire à votre Alteſſe, & de lui marquer les ſentimens d'un cœur qui eſt parfaitement dévoué à ſon ſervice.

Tout ſerviteur que je ſuis à Monſieur de Lexington, je ne puis pas m'empêcher de lui envier le bonheur qu'il a de faire ſa cour, ſous la protection de votre Alteſſe, à cette Grande Reine d'Eſpagne dont les vertus héroïques ſont l'admiration du ſiècle préſent, & ſeront celle de la poſtérité.

Comme Monſieur le Comte d'Oxford ſe donne l'honneur d'écrire à votre Alteſſe, il eſt fort inutile que j'entre dans aucun détail à l'égard des intérêts des deux cours. Je me flatte que Monſieur le Marquis de Monteleon a trouvé, dans ſa négociation, toutes les facilités qui dépendoient de moi, & j'oſe aſſurer votre Alteſſe qu'il trouvera toujours les mêmes.

Je n'ai manqué, Madame, d'envoyer à Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Reine toutes les inſtructions qui ont été jugées les plus convenables pour faire aſſurer à votre Alteſſe, dans le traité de paix, la principauté que ſa Majeſté Catholique lui a accordée. Je ne veux point douter que les ſoins que ces Miniſtres apporteront n'aſſortiſſent à cette occaſion leur effet entier.

Ce qu'il y a de certain, c'eſt que je ne négligerai rien pour faire éclater le profond reſpect, & l'attachement inviolable, avec leſquels j'ai l'honneur d'être, Madame, de votre Alteſſe,

Le très humble

Et très obeiſſant ſerviteur,

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.*

FORGIVE me, my Lord, if I encroach ſtill farther upon your patience; the Venetian Ambaſſador ſends me the incloſed, and deſires me to write to you upon a ſubject which I really underſtand but by halves. I hope he explains himſelf in his letter to your Grace; all the notion I have of his requeſt is, that you, my Lord, will pleaſe to ſoften the Court of France, who are angry with the Venetians becauſe they will not, in violation of the conſtitution of their government, diſpenſe with Cardinal Ottoboni for taking the Protectorſhip of France.

I have nothing particular in command from the Queen to ſay upon this ſubject; your Grace knows, in general, that her Majeſty has been all along inclined to favour the republic of Venice, as far as conveniently ſhe could.

I have the honour to be, &c.

I beg leave to aſſure my Lady Ducheſs of my moſt humble reſpects, and I would, according to my promiſe, have had the honour before this of writing to her Grace, if any thing had happened which the relation of might ſerve to divert her; but we are entirely Engliſh, extremely dull.

* This is part of a letter to the Duke of Shrewſbury, of the 25th January, 1712-13. BOLINGBROKE.

To Mr. Gilligan *.

I CANNOT help adding to my letter, which has been ſome time writ, and has waited for the diſpatch of the courier, that the Spaniſh Miniſters may perhaps object, that we are aſking ourſelves for licences at the ſame time, and with the ſame breath, as we exclaim againſt thoſe contracted for with the French, and as we demand the recal of them. Methinks there are two very good anſwers to be given to this objection:

Firſt, ſince the Spaniards expect that the Queen ſhould diſcourage and hinder her ſubjects from exerciſing that power which the law and charter gives to the South-Sea Company, and ſince the Queen has, in fact, hindered them from undertaking any thing on that ſide of the world, whilſt they might, without giving Spain any juſt reaſon of complaint, have done, nothing is more reaſonable than that an opportunity ſhould be given the merchants of vending the goods bought in this proſpect, and now lying upon their hands.

Secondly, the advantage of 15 per cent. ſtipulated to be made good to the ſubjects of Great Britain in their commerce, would not only have been grievous to the Spaniards, but would likewiſe have been a prejudice to all other nations trading to Spain; the yielding of this point up is, therefore, not only a conceſſion to Spain, but to France alſo, and to the other mercantile people of Europe; from whence it plainly follows, that none of theſe ought to complain of what we purchaſe in effect, by yielding ſo great a privilege as that above-mentioned.

* This was added to the letter to Mr. Gilligan, 25th January, 1712-13.

Give me leave again to recommend diſpatch to you, and to tell you my opinion, that you will be very well juſtified if you do, in any inſtance, ſtretch your inſtructions to ſave time. I think, as to the ſhips to be lent or ſold the Spaniards, you ſhould turn your propoſitions the moſt plauſibly you can :—Will they, at leaſt at firſt, not be in want of officers and ſeamen as well as ſhips?

I have ſent my Lord Lexington a copy of your laſt inſtructions.

I am, Sir, &c.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

My Lord,

Whitehall, January 27th, 1712-13.

EVERY delay which happens to obſtruct the diſpatch of this courier, produces a new letter to your Grace: the occaſion of my writing now will, I am ſure, equally ſurpriſe and concern you.

Yeſterday, between three and four o'clock in the afternoon, a fire broke out in the Duke d'Aumont's houſe *, and raged with ſo great fury, that, though there blew little or no wind, it was in two hours' time conſumed to the ground. All that could be done was done, both to ſtop the fire, and to prevent the pillaging which generally follows in a confuſion of that kind. A detachment of the horſe, and another of the foot guards were ſent; the Duke of Ormond, the Captain of the guard in waiting, which was the Earl of Arran, Sir William Wyndham, the Vice Chamberlain, and others, went to give the Duke d'Aumont all the aſſiſtance in their power. My Lord Dartmouth waited upon him this morning, at the Marquis de Monteleon's

* In Great Ormond-ſtreet; it was rebuilt at the charge of the French King, but has been many years ſince taken down, and upon its ſite ſtand at preſent Powis-place and the adjoining houſes in Ormond-ſtreet.

houſe,

houſe, where he lay, as I had done the night before at the riſing from the Council; and the Vice Chamberlain was afterwards with him, in the Queen's name. As for the loſs which the Duke d'Aumont may have ſuffered by this misfortune, I am not able to ſay any thing particular to your Grace; but I am ſorry to tell you that there appear ſeveral circumſtances, which give great reaſon to apprehend that the fire was not accidental, but the effect of malicious and premeditated contrivance. This is extremely ſuſpected, not only from ſeveral private advices and warnings which the Duke had, and which he neglected, as her Majeſty's ſervants do, who have frequent ſuggeſtions of the like nature, but alſo from fire-works and powder, which were obſerved to be ſcattered in ſeveral parts of the houſe, and from the fire's breaking out in a garret made uſe of for the Duke of Powis's lumber, and to which none of the Duke d'Aumont's family had any acceſs. But ſtrict enquiry is making into all the particular facts, in order to diſcover the authors of ſuch a villainy; and in the mean time her Majeſty has, by compliments and all manner of civility, ſoftened as much as poſſible this matter to the Duke; and to make him more eaſy, has given him her own apartments in Somerſet-houſe to lodge in, till he can find out another houſe for himſelf.

I believe the Duke intends to ſend a perſon on purpoſe into France to give an account of what has happened, which will undoubtedly make a great noiſe in that kingdom, and therefore I was willing by this meſſenger to inform your Grace of it as early as I could, that you might be prepared to ſpeak of it beforehand.

January 28th, 1712-13.

I WAS got thus far laſt night, but deferred cloſing my letter on account of an indiſpoſition which the Queen was under, and which gave us, as every one, even the ſlighteſt, muſt do, ſome alarm. I can now

acquaint your Grace, with great joy, that her Majeſty reſted very well laſt night, and is again extremely well, except as to ſome ſmall remains of a fit of the gout, which has not entirely ſpent itſelf.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewſbury.

MY LORD,

January 28th, 1712-13.

SINCE the other letter of this day's date was writ, ſeveral examinations have been had of circumſtances advanced to prove that the Duke d'Aumont's Houſe was ſet on fire. I cannot ſay, that they anſwer what I was made to expect; I intend to proceed as far as I can in theſe enquiries, becauſe, on one hand, I would not leave ſuch a villainy undetected, and on the other, I ſhould be ſorry, undeſervedly, to have ſuch a reproach fixed on the nation.

I am ever, your Grace's, &c.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, February 2nd, 1713.

LA Vigne went from hence the 29th December, Barton the 8th January, and Berry the 19th, to all which we pauſe for a reply; and are ſo fully ſatisfied, that in a day or two we ſhall hear from you as to all points, that though we have determined to ſend away an expreſs, we defer till Saturday, this being Thurſday, confiding to the care of this gentleman only ſuch letters as are not of great conſequence.

The Duke of Shrewſbury has had a little fit of the gout; I have been with the Miniſtry at Verſailles, of which you will have more by the expreſs which the Duke intends ſhall not go from hence till Saturday, hoping, in the mean time, that we may hear from you, and that you, having now before you all that has been done at Utrecht, will be able to give us the laſt peremptory orders, which we expect with great impatience.

I am, &c.

M. Prior.

From Mr. Prior.

My Lord,

Paris, 4th February, 1713.

ACCORDING to what I promiſed in my laſt letter to your Lordſhip, I in this tranſmit the copy, of which his Grace of Shrewſbury has likewiſe tranſmitted to Lord Dartmouth *; by which your

* "Comme en vue de faciliter l'ouverture & l'exercice du commerce réciproque entre la France & la Grande Bretagne, il a été convenu au mois de Juin dernier des deux articles ſuivans:

"*Article première.* Qu'en cas qu'on ne tombe pas d'accord ſur les points en diſpute touchant le commerce, des commiſſaries ſoient nommés des deux côtés, qui s'aſſembleront à Londres, pour examiner & régler les droits & impoſitions qu'on doit payer dans chaque royaume; & qu'on les ajuſte de telle manière que par-là le commerce entre les deux nations ſoit encouragé & élargi.

"*Article ſecond.* Qu'aucun privilége ou avantage par rapport au commerce de la France ne ſera accordé à aucune nation étrangère, qui ne ſera pas accordé en même-tems aux ſujets de ſa Majeſté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne; de même aucun privilége ou avantage par rapport au commerce de la Grande Bretagne ne ſera accordé à aucune nation étrangère qui ne ſera pas accordé en même-tems aux ſujets de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne.

"En vertu des ſuſdits articles, il ſera nommé des Commiſſaires, qui s'aſſembleront à Londres, pour examiner les droits & impoſitions qu'on doit payer dans chaque royaume, & les régler réciproquement à l'égard des deux nations, conformément à ce que payera la nation étrangère la plus favoriſée en France d'une part, & de l'autre dans la Grande Bretagne, enſorte que les Commiſſaires étant d'accord, ce qui doit être dans l'eſpace de mois, le Roi donnera, & fera publier dans ſon royaume & pays de ſon obéiſſance, les ordonnances néceſſaires pour faire exécuter ce qui aura été convenu entre les dits Commiſſaires, & lever tout empêchement au commerce en France, des ſujets de la Reine de la Grande Bretagne; comme auſſi de la part de ſa Majeſté Britannique, il ſera pourvu à faire annuller tous actes de Parlement qui empêchent que les François ne ſoient traités dans les états de la Grande Bretagne, & de ſon obéiſſance, comme la nation étrangère la plus favoriſée.

Lordſhip ſees our principle of *amiciſſima gens* agreed to, and the articles of leſs conſequence, dependant upon it, anſwered by the French Plenipotentiaries of Utrecht*; from whence we preſume you have received

* " *The French at Utrecht, 20th January, 1713.*

Concerning the Articles.

" De tout tems les manufactures étrangères n'ont été admiſes en France que par des entrées réſervées, ou elles étoient viſitées de la même manière que le ſont les ouvrages du royaume. Celles d'Angleterre entroient par la Normandie, la Bretagne, & la Guienne; & s'il s'en trouvoient des vicieuſes, elles étoient confiſquées,

" On dérogea à la confiſcation en 1606, par le traité de Paris du 24me Février, & on ſtipula que les mauvaiſes manufactures ſeroient renvoyées ſans droit de ſortie. Cette diſpoſition fut confirmée en 1655, par le traité de Weſtminſter, & depuis on a continué de réſerver l'entrée des manufactures étrangères par des lieux déſignés, & la viſite en a toujours été faite depuis ce tems-là; ce ſont des lois fondémentales du royaume qu'on ne pourroit abolir.

" On ne pourra accorder aux navigateurs Anglois la navigation de port en port en France, qu'à condition qu'elle fut permiſe aux François en Angleterre; ſans cette réciprocité on ne peut l'accorder en France aux Anglois, & ils ne peuvent la demander; encore faudroit-il par la même raiſon que les cinq ſchellings fuſſent réduits à la moitié, parce que ce ſeroit à-peu-près la valeur de 50 ſols de France.

" Il eſt vrai que par le traité de Ryſwick la France accorda cette faculté aux Hollandois, ſans ſtipuler le réciproque pour les François en Hollande; mais c'eſt uniquement à cauſe que le commerce de la Hollande ſe faiſant par les canaux, ne peut ſe faire par mer de port en port, ce qui eſt fort différent dans les vaiſſeaux de la Grande Bretagne; d'ailleurs les Hollandois ont toujours payé le droit en queſtion ſur toute la capacité du vaiſſeau, ſans avoir égard à ſa charge.

" Quant à l'abolition de ce droit pour les vaiſſeaux qui arriveront d'Angleterre, ou des autres endroits du monde dans les ports de France, on y conſent, mais à condition qu'elle ne commencera en France qu'au même jour qu'elle aura lieu en Angleterre.

As to viſiting and confiſcating of manufactures, upon pretence of fault or fraud in the making or fabricating thereof, &c.

Relating to the 50 ſols per ton, to remain upon the ſhips trading coaſt-ways from port to port in either kingdom, *they will take it off, as we ſhall the five ſhillings per ton*—" Excepté ſeulement au cas ſuivant: quand le navires Anglois tranſporteront des marchandiſes qu'ils auront chargées dans un port de France, & qu'ils les déchargeront dans un autre port de France; au quel cas, & en nul autre, les ſujets de la Grande Bretagne payeront le droit abrogé & aboli dans le préſent article; mais ils ne le payeront que ſuivant la proportion des marchandiſes qu'ils auront chargé, mais non ſuivant la capacité du vaiſſeau."

In theſe words our Plenipotentiaries have given in this exception to the French at Utrecht; you find they give no diſtinct anſwer, but judge it referable to Commiſſioners.

As to Poſt Entries, &c.

" Ceux qui ont donné au fait, leurs déclarations des marchandiſes qu'ils apportent, ne peuvent plús augmenter ni diminuer, ſous prétexte d'omiſſion ou autrement; & la verité ou la fauſſeté de la déclaration eſt jugée ſur ce qui a été premièrement déclaré.

" Voilà à quoi les marchands François ſont aſſujetis; on ne peut traiter en cela les Anglois autrement que les propres ſujets de ſa Majeſté. Il eſt vrai qu'on doit favoriſer l'innocence, mais il n'eſt pas moins vrai qu'il faut prévenir & empêcher les fraudes.

ceived them, conſidering the date they bear of the 20th January; it is humbly ſubmitted to her Majeſty, if the main article of *amiciſſima gens* be ſuch as may merit her approbation; the others your Lordſhip ſees, ſuch as the tobacco farmed, the hindering merchandiſe to be viſited and confiſcated by reaſon of deficiency in its goodneſs, meaſure, &c. which are againſt the laws and conſtitution of France, are anſwered in the negative, the reſt yielded or referred to Commiſſioners as the nature of the thing in circumſtances, particularly of time, requires; but this is no explanation to your Lordſhip, who is perfectly maſter of the whole.

I will not inſiſt upon my own aſtoniſhment, that we have no courier; *nil admirari*; I am a patient man, and will leave the Duke of Shrewſbury to chide you, which is the thing in the world he can do worſt.

My Lord Treaſurer's goodneſs to me, has left me too ample a com-

The Article for appointing Conſuls.

On ne trouve dans aucun traité entre la France & l'Angleterre l'établiſſement des Conſuls, qu'on propoſe, on croit qu'il ſeroit préjudiciable au commerce des deux nations, car ordinairement les Conſuls ſur les marchands ſe menagent les enterpriſes les plus profitables à l'excluſion de leurs compatriotes, nonobſtant les défences qu'ils en ont. Et de plus les appointemens de ces perſonnes publiques ſont pris ſur le commerce, & c'eſt une charge réelle qu'il convient d'éviter, ainſi au lieu de conſuls, on pourroit envoyer de part & d'autre à Paris & à Londres un réſident de commerce, pour y recevoir les griefs que chaque nation pourroit ſouffrir, afin de les réparer en les repréſentant à Meſſieurs les Miniſtres des deux Couronnes, & obtenant les ordres qui ſeroient convenables.

In relation to the tarif of the 18th September, 1664.

" The incloſed Memorial gives an anſwer to this article, upon which likewiſe the particular regulation of the other articles will depend. Commiſſioners being to be appointed to that end.

Concerning tare on goods imported into France.

" Les ſujets du Roi, & tous les étrangers tenus de payer les droits d'entrée ſur les marchandiſes, ſans faire diminution du poids des emballages, des caiſſes, & des tonneaux, excepté les ſoieries, & les épiceries. On ne peut faire à cet égard, ni ordonnance nouvelle, ni accorder ce qu'on demande; & les Anglois ſur cela ſeront traités comme les François.

As to what concerns the Tobacco Farm, in France.

" Les Anglois auront la permiſſion de vendre leur tabac au fermier, comme les Marchands François l'ont. On ne peut rien étranger à l'uſage établi ſur cela en France.

" Agreed. " Head-money and argent-du-chef to be reciprocally aboliſhed."

miſſion

miſſion as to expence, that I dare not make uſe of it without ſome directions and reſtrictions, or marks of its boundaries; I muſt have recourſe to your friendſhip to inform me, if, upon a conſideration that I am to ſtay here till the renunciation and entry, at the firſt of which I muſt aſſiſt by virtue of my powers, and at the ſecond in honour to the nation and the Ambaſſador; if, I ſay, I muſt not have horſes and a coach, otherwiſe than equipage hired by the month, which, in my conſcience, I think will coſt me but little more than that in which I now am: of this, I beg you to ſpeak to Lord Treaſurer, and give me a hint, that I may order thoſe affairs accordingly, which in point of time will admit of no delay. I may ſwear to your Lordſhip, and you will take my word for it, that as to my own ſatisfaction, I would not give ſixpence for the parading part; what I hope from my little ſervices, though zealous endeavours, being ſome ſmall eſtabliſhment at home, in which I may bleſs the Queen's goodneſs, and cultivate the honour of Lord Bolingbroke's friendſhip, whoſe very faithful, &c.

M. Prior.

I ſend you a cargo which I received this morning from Count Monoſtrole *, and my Lord Duke ſends to Lord Dartmouth a memorial from the Elector of Cologne; my Lord Duke likewiſe recommends the Duke de St. Pierre's affair, and I ſhould be unjuſt to Madame de Croiſſy and to Monſieur de Torcy, if I did not remind your Lordſhip of it; for it is with a very pleaſing vanity, that I hear them ſay, *Harré fera tout pour Matthieu.*

I ſend you the beſt truffles in the world, pray let me by your means make my court with them.

Adieu, my Lord,

I am, ever your's.

* The Bavarian Miniſter.

To Mr. Prior.

Whitehall, January 26, 1712-13.

THOUGH you complain, dear Matt, of not hearing from other parts, ſo often as the ſervice ſeems to require, I doubt you will find that you hear from me too often, and I pray to Heaven the Duke of Shrewſbury do not paſs the ſame cenſure upon me.

It is ſo neceſſary to finiſh, and it is ſo neceſſary not to ſuffer ourſelves to be bantered at the cloſe of the treaty out of an advantage, which we have obtained in the courſe of the negociation, that I never could hold my pen ſtill, as long as I had a thought in my mind upon this ſubject unopened.

You have ſeen by this, that if the article of Newfoundland admits of difficulty, it is only becauſe of thoſe which France keeps up with reſpect to trade.

A ſmall miſtake happened, and who can avoid ſome in a work of this length, extent, and perplexity? but, I believe you will agree with me, that it had better be owned by us than improved by the French.

All impoſitions laid ſince the year 1664, are not to be taken off, but all prohibitions of merchandiſe of France, ſays the paper put into your hands; and as to impoſitions, they are to be reduced to the ſame proportion as other nations pay.

I am glad to find the Duke and you ſo well pleaſed with each other, you are both in the right.

My friendſhip, dear Matt, ſhall never fail thee, employ it all, and continue to love

BOLINGBROKE.

To

To the Earl of Strafford.

Whitehall, February 3rd, 1712-13.

INDEED, my Lord, it is impoſſible to ſay enough in commendation of that good conduct which has overcome the obſtinacy of the Dutch, and by prevailing on them to execute the barrier treaty, has buried at once all their diſputes with the Queen. The Whigs, who railed all the while this matter was in ſuſpence, and cried we were going to plunder the States, and to undermine the Proteſtant ſucceſſion, by ſubſtituting a very bad treaty in lieu of a very good one, have already changed their tone, and affect to declare that they can have no objection to this treaty, ſince it is in effect the ſame with that which my Lord Townſhend made. You ſee how readily this faction take every new pli which their leaders think fit to give them.

You are ſurely in the right, when you appear ſo eager to have every thing, as ſoon as poſſible, concluded. The conference between the French and the Dutch, mentioned in one of your Lordſhips' joint-letters, ſufficiently ſhows what we are to expect from keeping the negociation any longer open. The Duke of Shrewſbury is inſtructed to take up the matter warmly, and to ſpeak a language that, I confeſs, I hope and believe, will determine the court of France, ſince no little advantage which they might gain by the opening the campaign, can make them amends for the riſk they run of raiſing a new ferment in Europe, which muſt naturally happen, if the peace comes to be delayed by their fault.

I agree in the obſervation you make, as to what paſſes at Paris. We have got over the ill effect of too much forwardneſs, and now the game appears ſo ſafe and ſo eaſy to be played, I hope we ſhall not ſuffer

fer by too great caution; I know of no meaſures taken for ſheltering any body, neither does there appear to me any ſtorm in the air to occaſion them. You and I, my Lord, have ſeen the time when it was neceſſary to act, in the midſt of danger, as if none had been near us; but thoſe days are paſt, and the bleſſing will be ſo much the more dear to us, as we run through the more trouble and the more peril in the purſuit of it.

I have not yet had an opportunity of breaking to the Marquis de Monteleon, the requeſt which Count Paſſionei makes; in a day or two, I will not fail to preſs him, and am not without hopes of ſucceeding. He is a man of good abilities, and not half ſo much a Frenchman as he is reputed to be. I think I may venture to ſay, we have eſtabliſhed already, through him, a confidence with the court of Madrid, and particularly with the Princeſſe des Urſins. Your Lordſhip will, in a ſhort time, ſee ſome proofs of this, which cannot fail to ſurprize you agreeably, and which will not be very welcome in France.

The King of Pruſſia does me a great deal of honour, and I will make my acknowledgments to his Majeſty in the beſt manner I am able; to your Lordſhip I may ſay, that I am equally at a loſs to find how I came to be out of his good graces, or how I came to be reſtored to them again. As to Monſieur Grumkow *, whom I know extremely well, though I never ſaw him; it is of very little moment what meaſures he purſues; but I dare ſay, he wants nothing but the opportunity to return to thoſe which he has been accuſtomed to ſo long.

What your Lordſhip ſaid, both to the French and Dutch, as I find it in your letter of the 4th, was perfectly right; if the latter conſent to refer the four ſpecies, as the Queen has done, and talk no more of Condé, France muſt chicane no more with them, about the extent of

* Pruſſian Reſident at the Hague; he was a General in the army, and, like the chief part of the foreign commanders, was extremely diſappointed at the concluſion of the war.

the

the ceſſions which are to be made. The Queen will open the true ſtate of the negociation to her Parliament, and to the world, and let mankind be judges at whoſe door the delay is to be fixed.

As to the buſineſs of Spain, I ſhall be ready amply to inſtruct your Lordſhip, and I hope ſo as to leave you very little trouble, in a very few days; in the mean time, the renunciations muſt be made in France, and the admiſſion of the Spaniſh Miniſters muſt be demanded at Utrecht *. Your Lordſhip will continue to inſiſt in thoſe terms, that the Catalans be reſtored to their ancient privileges, and we will carry the point.

Your chaplain may be aſſured of my beſt ſervices, it is enough that your Lordſhip is his patron to make me his ſervant. I have ſpoke both for him and for Mr. Duret, and will repeat my applications.

To tell your Lordſhip the truth, I do not ſee the Queen inclined to give anſwer to the Elector of Cologne †. She has too much trouble about one of the brothers, to give herſelf more for the other; and beſides, of all the Princes in Chriſtendom, ſhe thinks this man deſerves the leaſt good at her hands.

The proxies your Lordſhip ſent being dated, and a prorogation ‡ having happened to-day, I am obliged to ſend others to you, which I beg you to ſign, but leave otherwiſe quite in blank for greater ſecurity. I will take care to inſert no name but my own, ſince your Lordſhip is ſo good as to intend me that favour, or Lord Berkeley's. My dear Lord, good night, all happineſs ever attend you.

I am, with the utmoſt reſpect,

Your Lordſhip's, &c.

* Hitherto, Spain had not been permitted to ſend Plenipotentiaries to the Congreſs at Utrecht.
† The Electors of Bavaria and Cologne were brothers.
‡ For a fortnight.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

My Lord,

Paris, February 4th, 1713, N.S.

IN your Lordſhip's letter of the 7th January, N.S. I was promiſed that, this day was a fortnight, a meſſenger ſhould be diſpatched hither, I concluded that what Mr. Prior firſt, and I had ſince writ, upon the difficulty we found in the main article of commerce, as well as upon Newfoundland, would haſten that expreſs; but none coming, I can no longer diſſemble my impatience, but confeſs to you, I make a figure not very creditable to the miniſtry or myſelf, to remain in ſuch a conjuncture thus long without knowing any thing from home, but what comes printed in the Poſt-Poy *. The neceſſity of bringing this treaty to a ſpeedy deciſion one way or other, is as evident as the delay in giving orders upon it is wonderful; God ſend it a happy concluſion, and me well at Heathrop!

Your Lordſhip will ſee by Mr. Prior's letter to you, and by mine to Lord Dartmouth, what this King now offers upon the main articles of commerce: if it be judged ſufficient in England, and the expedient Mr. Prior ſent a month ſince about Newfoundland, may be accepted; I hope her Majeſty will give immediate directions to the Plenipotentiaries, to conclude at Utrecht; but if they are not ſatisfactory, let it be known without farther loſs of time, for beſides that delay is highly prejudicial in the preſent circumſtance, it looks like irreſolution, and is enough to loſe a cauſe which might be otherwiſe gained; I ſhall only add, that if her Majeſty inſiſts upon the article of Newfoundland, in the ſtrict terms of my laſt inſtructions, it is a matter they think of

* A newſpaper ſo called.

ſuch

ſuch conſequence to them, that it will be requiſite your Lordſhip and Lord Treaſurer ſhould write to Monſieur de Torcy, in a moſt poſitive and reſolute ſtyle, and let him underſtand the peace cannot be had without it; as to the heads of commerce, I confeſs myſelf ſo ignorant, that when they deſcend to particulars, it is impoſſible for me to debate upon them, and the ſureſt way, and ſpeedieſt method would be to ſend ſomebody well verſed in trade, to argue thoſe points at Utrecht.

I have ſent to Lord Dartmouth the caſes of the Duke of St. Pierre; you are informed of his pretenſions, and know the ſhare the Colbert family take in this affair, ſo doubt not but what is proper and juſt her Majeſty will do in this particular, in conſideration of Madame de Croiſſi and Monſieur de Torcy, who omit no opportunity of ſhowing their reſpect to her Majeſty, and to whoever any way belongs to her. I am juſt got out of a ſhort fit of the gout, which hindered my going to Verſailles laſt week, I deſign to be there in two or three days; by the peeviſhneſs of my letters you will ſuſpect I am not quite recovered, but this being writ to Lord Bolingbroke as to a friend, and not as Secretary of State, I have opened my heart ſincerely and without diſguiſe, as I do when I aſſure you, I am,

My Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From the Duke of Shrewſbury.

MY LORD,

Verſailles, February 7th, N.S. 1713.

THE meſſenger arrived at Paris on Saturday night, and on Sunday Mr. Prior came hither with the article, which he left in Monſieur de Torcy's hands till I came, which was yeſterday; Monſieur

de Torcy having examined the article, and ſhowed it to the King, told me laſt night it was all agreed to, except theſe laſt words, *omnino in contrarium, &c.* which he inſiſted would give us opportunity, in caſe the commiſſioners came to no agreement, within the time preſcribed, to demand the exemption from thoſe ſpecies, which are excepted in the body of the article; and propoſed either an explanatory clauſe, that the power of the Commiſſioners ſhould be underſtood to be confined to thoſe ſpecies only, or to have the clauſe abſolutely left out; I could not think it proper to conſent to either of theſe propoſals, judging the article to have been maturely weighed and conſidered, and not forſeeing what effect any alteration therein might produce, I choſe rather to give the miniſtry the incloſed note *, which I conclude to be her Majeſty's ſenſe, and conſonant to the tenour of the article; ſo that taking this article to be ſettled, I have agreed to the other of Newfoundland, and have obtained, that the Iſle of Sable is yielded to us, and makes our boundary on the ſide of Acadia.

I do not doubt but this expreſs will arrive ſoon enough for the opening of the Parliament, and that her Majeſty declaring in her ſpeeeh, that ſhe has finiſhed with France, will facilitate and haſten our allies to make their peace. Monſieur de Torcy aſſures me, that orders are already given, and ſhall be repeated to their Plenipotentiaries, to ſhow the allies, that by the faireſt and openeſt proceedings, France is willing to come to a ſpeedy concluſion.

I thought it of conſequence not to loſe a moment in diſpatching this

* "Pour lever la difficulté à l'égard des derniers paroles de l'article, intitulé, *in locum* 9 & 10 *art. Tractatus de Commercio.* Comme ſi, poſant le cas que les Commiſſaires ne s'accordaſſent point au bout du tems préfcrit, on pouvoit s'en prévaloir à demander des avantages nouveaux, j'entends que la Reine ne prétend pas, en vertu de cet article, de tirer d'autres avantages du tarif de 1664, que ceux qui ſeront accordé par la France aux Hollandois, par la paix prochaine, & que Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont eſt en droit, s'il juge néceſſaire de demander une telle explication à Londres.

"Fait à Verſailles, ce 7me Février, 1713. "SHREWSBURY."

courier, which has not yet allowed me time to enter into the other particulars, ſome of which will occaſion longer debates.

I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Verſailles, 7th February, 1713, N.S.

COMMERCE is a thing I underſtand ſo little, that I was much alarmed when Monſieur de Torcy propoſed leaving out the laſt words of the article your Lordſhips ſent over. This King's Council ſuſpected we deſigned by that laſt clauſe, to obtain an exemption of duty upon thoſe very ſpecies excepted in the body of the article; I concluding no ſuch thing was intended, choſe rather to ſign the papers I have ſent incloſed, than to alter or leave out one word of the articles. I hope I have acted according to her Majeſty's intention, and that all diſputes concerning our intereſts are now ſettled, which if I find ſo underſtood in England at the return of the next courier, it will be time I ſhould demand the renunciation theſe Princes are to make to the crown of Spain, upon which, I hope her Majeſty will ſend her orders.

As to the departure of the Chevalier, Monſieur de Torcy told me, the King had thought on an expedient, *viz.* to ſend him to Nancy; I made no reply, not knowing whether that would be conſtrued in England ſending him out of France.

The Duke of Berwick*, juſt returned triumphant from Spain, was

* Natural ſon of King James II, by Arabella Churchill, ſiſter of the Duke of Marlborough, created, 1687, Duke of Berwick by his father; he was Grandee of Spain, Knight of the Golden Fleece, and in 1734, was killed at the ſiege of Philipſburg, being at that time Generaliſſimo of the French forces.

this

this morning in the apartments; he desired Monsieur de Torcy to enquire of me, whether his visit would be acceptable, if he came to see me at Paris. I answered, I had no difficulty to pay the Duke of Berwick all respect due to him in a third place, but hoped he would not give himself the trouble of visiting me, because I could not return it, and should be very sorry to be forced to do an uncivil thing to a person of his quality and merit. A little while after, Monsieur de Torcy brought him to make me a compliment in the King's bed-chamber, and being invited to dine at the Duke de Noailles, where he dined also, all passed civilly between us. I desire your Lordship will inform her Majesty and Lord Treasurer of this, and if I have done too much or too little, set me right for the future. Several English gentlemen of the St. Germain's Court, have asked to visit me, but I have let them understand I desired to be excused, and not having seen my own aunt, others would be in the wrong if they took it ill.

I am, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, February 4th, 1712-13.

I WAS not at all surprised at the uneasiness which you expressed in your letter of the 4th, and I flatter myself your Grace remembers so well on what foot you left us, that you do not blame me, if the messenger was not dispatched on the day I fixed.

I acquainted the Queen with what your Grace mentions of your conduct towards the Duke of Berwick, and such of the St. Germain's Court as have asked to visit you, and am commanded to say, that she thinks your Grace has done neither too much nor too little.

Though

Though I have not time at preſent to apprize your Grace of all the particulars, yet I cannot omit acquainting you, that our negociations with the Court of Spain ſucceed beyond our expectations, and that Mr. Gilligan deſerves to have his ſtatue erected. I hope in few days to have finiſhed the project of the Spaniſh treaty with the Marquis de Monteleon, who proves more than we were made to expect. I cannot ſay the ſame of the Duc d'Aumont. He has about him ſeveral people who know nothing of our affairs. He knows leſs, and both they and he fancy they know even more than we who are on the ſpot: this makes me apprehend that the accounts which he gives of the ſtate of things may be often miſtaken, and therefore I judged it neceſſary to give your Grace this hint. He receives penny-poſt letters and intelligence from refugees, and believes them all. You will laugh when I tell you, that he had taken it the other day into his head, that the reaſon for proroguing the Parliament was becauſe the Queen durſt not ſtir abroad, leſt ſhe ſhould be aſſaſſinated!

I am, &c.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Feb. 4th, 1712-13.

YOUR Grace's letters of the 4th were followed ſo quickly by thoſe of the 7th, that I had hardly time to take part in the uneaſineſs which your Grace expreſſes in the former.

The Queen, my Lord, is extremely pleaſed to find the article of commerce ſettled, and by that, all her material differences with France adjuſted. We cannot ſee that there was the leaſt ground for the apprehenſion which the French Miniſters pretended to be in, that

by thoſe words, *omninò in contrarium*, &c. we ſhould have an opportunity, in caſe the Commiſſioners came to no agreement, to demand an exemption of thoſe ſpecies which are excepted in the body of the article. The Queen has no deſign but what your Grace lays down in the explanatory paper which you gave to the Miniſters of France, and indeed the words which immediately precede thoſe objected to by the French, ſhow plainly that her Majeſty claims the benefit of the tarif of 1664, no otherwiſe than as it ſhall be granted to the ſubjects of any other, the moſt favoured nation.

It is certainly now time that your Grace ſhould demand the renunciations which the Princes of the Houſe of Bourbon are to make of the crown of Spain, and I ſuppoſe the Earl of Dartmouth ſends you her Majeſty's orders which were yeſterday given in council, to that purpoſe. I write likewiſe by this poſt to the Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, that their Lordſhips are now to demand the admiſſion of the Spaniſh Miniſters into the Congreſs, to which overture there will, without doubt, be no oppoſition from any quarter.

Thus, my Lord, every thing tends to a concluſion, and the Queen is glad to hear the orders are already given to the French Plenipotentiaries, to ſhow the allies, that, by the faireſt and openeſt proceedings, France is willing to come to a ſpeedy end of the treaty; but I am commanded at the ſame time to ſay to your Grace, that her Majeſty wiſhes the late behaviour of the French Miniſters at Utrecht had been influenced by ſuch a principle.

I incloſe an extract of a letter from the Queen's Plenipotentiaries, by which you will ſee, my Lord, in what manner the Miniſters of France thought fit to treat thoſe of the States-General, in the firſt conference they had with them, after the diſpute about Monſieur de Rechteren's affair had been accommodated, and the Dutch had given the ſatisfaction required. The Queen would have your Grace take notice of this

to

to Monſieur de Torcy, as a matter which infinitely ſurpriſed and concerned her Majeſty, and upon this occaſion put the Miniſter again in mind of the rule which her Majeſty laid down ſo long ago, and from which ſhe neither has nor will depart. Since the Dutch treat, ſince they deſire in earneſt to conclude, ſince they will drop the conteſts about Condé and about the four ſpecies, the Queen cannot abandon, nor ſign her treaty without them; ſhould the States ſtand off, on account of the two laſt mentioned points, they would be in the wrong, and the Queen would wait no longer for them; but if they refuſed to ſign till France yields the Châtellenies promiſed, in ſuch manner, and according to ſuch limits, as France has poſſeſſed them, then they are in the right, and the Queen will wait for them, eſpouſe their cauſe, and ſtand and fall with them.

The Miniſters of France having thought fit to diſown the propoſition which the Queen believed they would have ſtood to, relating to the Elector of Bavaria, her Majeſty does not ſee how ſhe can farther intereſt herſelf in that affair; her intention therefore at preſent is, to leave the parties concerned to wrangle upon the ſeveral expedients that are ſtarted. It is not to be ſuppoſed that a little more or a little leſs to this Prince will occaſion the continuance of the war; they will, among themſelves, fall upon ſomething or other at laſt; the Queen will impoſe no plan upon either party. Perhaps, by the next courier I may have ſome overture to inſinuate to your Grace, which will put the generoſity of France to a trial; for if the King expects ſo much from the Empire in favour of his ally, it will become natural for the Empire to expect a little from his Majeſty.

The weakneſs remaining in the Queen's feet, after a pretty ſevere fit of the gout, has been the principal motive for proroguing the Parliament to the 17th inſtant; the Queen will then open a full and true ſtate of the treaty to the world: a little candour, a little facility, on

the part of France to the allies, will procure ſuch reſolutions here as muſt determine all of them to conclude.

If your Grace cannot make men reaſonable, they are very far gone in folly; my ſpirit is, therefore, eaſy; and I perſuade myſelf beforehand, that you will procure ſuch orders to be ſent to the French Miniſters at Utrecht, as may enable thoſe of her Majeſty to preſs the allies, and may make it fit for them to declare that the Queen is ready to ſign, and ſhe will ſtay no longer for any one.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Verſailles, February 7th, 1713.

I NEED not enter into the particulars of your Lordſhip's letter of the 19th, or ſay any thing more of the article and explanation of it ſent from hence by Philips on Saturday, but ſhall proceed to tell you, that the Latin article which you ſent us by Barton, who arrived here ſome hours after Philips's departure, is agreed to, and the Iſle de Sable yielded to us as the boundary of Acadia. What my Lord Duke writes to you, explains Monſieur de Torcy's apprehenſion of what we might pretend in virtue of the laſt clauſe, in caſe the Commiſſioners ſhould come to no agreement in the time preſcribed, the remedies he propoſed to obviate this difficulty, and the aſſurance which my Lord Duke has given the Miniſtry of the ſenſe in which the article is to be underſtood. I own to you, my Lord, that the thing had been ſo bandied about, that it grew confuſed, and that I think, by explaining our meaning on both ſides, we began to have our intentions ſuſpected; but our apprehenſions

prehenſions that the French were bringing us to a new principle, and their fear that we deſired more than I am of opinion we did deſign, are cured by the article as you ſent it, and I took it, as to what nothing could be added, and from what nothing ſhould be diminiſhed; ſo that, once more thanking your Lordſhip for it, and hoping you will approve of what has been done upon it, I congratulate your having finiſhed all that we had to decide with this nation.

As I had a very fair opportunity, upon our own affair thus finiſhed, to enter with Monſieur de Torcy upon the general plan of peace, I led him into the ſenſe of your letter, and am glad to tell you, that he aſſures me their Plenipotentiaries have already, and ſhall have, repeated orders to make ſuch propoſals to every one of the allies, as ſhall ſhow the ſincere and earneſt deſire that France has to come to a ſpeedy concluſion, and keep our allies in the wrong, in caſe they are ill enough adviſed to delay any longer: the ſame doctrine my Lord Duke of Shrewſbury has with more efficacy, as with much greater ability, inculcated ſo well, that I do not doubt but you will have the good effects of it from Utrecht.

I will detain your Lordſhip no longer from what my Lord Duke writes to you, than to aſſure you that I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To Mr. Prior.

DEAR MATT,

Whitehall, Febuary 4th, 1712-13.

HAVING writ largely both in my private and public diſpatch to the Duke of Shrewſbury, I ſhall give you by this courier very little trouble. We are at an end I think of our diſputes with France relating

to our own intereſts, I am ſure we are ready to conclude with Spain, ſo that the French have it now in their power, as ſoon as they pleaſe, to finiſh the great work; in order to this they muſt put on another character than they took in their conference with the Dutch Miniſters at Utrecht. If as faſt as we can make the allies yield, theſe Gentlemen riſe in their demands, there will be no end. I know that the States will agree to refer the conſideration of the four ſpecies, as the Queen has done; they muſt, and will, drop the demand of Condé; in this caſe therefore we will not, we ought not, to ſign without them; they have been in the wrong hitherto, but France may, by chicaning about the dependencies of the Châtellanies to be yielded, put them in the right.

The Queen is not yet able to walk, though, God be praiſed! ſhe is perfectly recovered of her indiſpoſition which alarmed us laſt week, and therefore chiefly the Parliament is again prorogued to the ſeventeenth; but another conſideration was, that ſince the allies do in earneſt treat, and are preſſing to conclude, her Majeſty was deſirous to ſee before ſhe ſpoke to the two houſes, in what manner the French would proceed; for ſhe is determined to open the true ſtate of the negociations, and to let the world know where the blame of delay is to be imputed. I hope our friend, Monſieur de Torcy, will prevail on his Court to preſerve to the end that candour, that ſpirit of facility, that *bonne foi*, with which they began.

Adieu, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From

From Mr. Prior.*

My Lord,

Paris, February 12th, 1713.

I WILL no way doubt but that the meſſenger whom we diſpatched hence the ſeventh, has freed you from all the apprehenſions which you were under when you writ to me on the 22d of January; and as I told you by that meſſenger, ſo I repeat to you, that I have put every word of your doctrine into practice, in relation to France, juſtifying itſelf to the world in its real deſire of a ſpeedy and equitable peace, and putting the allies in the wrong (or indeed keeping them ſo) in caſe they ſtand out any longer; I find Monſieur de Torcy had already ſent ſuch orders to Utrecht; that our Plenipotentiaries write the French are more eaſy as to the garriſoning thoſe towns in which the Elector of Bavaria is concerned. Monſieur de Torcy has ſaid, but deſired it ſhould not appear as from him in writing, that it is underſtood that Prince's property in thoſe places, is no longer to be reſerved to him, than till he ſhall be put into poſſeſſion of his dominions in Germany, the Upper Palatinate excepted, and of the kingdom of Sardinia; he conſents that Nieuport ſhould have an Engliſh garriſon, the town of Namur a Dutch, the citadel a Bavarian garriſon, in Charleroy a Dutch, and in Luxembourg a Bavarian: that the execution of the treaty made between the King of the Romans and the Electrice in 1704, ſhould be required by the Elector's Miniſters, or by what other canal ſhould be judged proper; that the Queen would be pleaſed to aſſiſt him, in that or any other juſt demand he may make, always underſtanding, as I make Monſieur de Torcy always underſtand, that her Majeſty is under no other obligation but that of her

* Received by Sir Thomas Hanmer.

own generoſity, and engaged no farther than as is ſpecified in the propoſal concerning Tournay, as I brought it over to England. We ſhall find no great difficulty as to the garriſoning Bonne and Liege; the Elector of Cologne and his Chapter, as he is Biſhop of Liege, diſagreeing, will make the garriſoning the town of Liege eaſy enough for the other parties to appoint; that of Bonne, if Imperial troops or thoſe of the circle, will make no great difference; and Huy will be allowed to be garriſoned by Holland troops, as its neighbourhood to Maeſtricht will very well juſtify.

I am very apprehenſive we ſhall not get the villages in diſpute for Savoy, though the Duke of Shrewſbury has offered the equivalent, Monſieur de Torcy ſtill perſiſting that his Royal Highneſs knows already that it is the ancient domain of France which he aſks, and has neither right or pretence to. He eternally refers me to what he has writ to your Lordſhip upon that ſubject, and to the anſwers which the French Plenipotentiaries have made at Utrecht on that head; but as we go to-morrow to Verſailles, and ſhall ſpeak to Monſieur de Torcy again of this and every other point yet undecided, upon which in a few days we ſhall ſend you an account, what I now write is referable to what we ſhall then confirm, which, to my utmoſt, I ſhall endeavour to have ſuch as may correſpond with the ideas you have given me.

As to the Dutch, I have told you many a day ſince that the four ſpecies would never be yielded as in the tarif of 1664, the yielding it being deſtructive to the manufactures, fiſhery, and colonies of this kingdom; and as to the fiſhery, as it will ſtand in relation to us about Newfoundland, the people of Weſt France are very ill ſatisfied; and our good friends at Amſterdam you will find not much better ſatisfied than the French, though it does not directly tend to their diſadvantage.

This is all I have at preſent to ſay to your Lordſhip in relation to the public; I leave it to Sir Thomas Hanmer*, who does me the

* Sir Thomas Hanmer had intended to go to Italy, but the critical ſituation of affairs induced the Miniſtry to ſolicit his ſpeedy return, though he had not proceeded upon his journey farther than Paris.

favour

favour to bring you this letter, to repeat to you, amongſt the circumſtances of private life, that I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

Mademoiſelle Noailles is to be married this day ſev'nnight to old Châteaurenault's only ſon, and I am to be at the wedding; Ducheſs Noailles is very much your ſervant; we all dined there laſt week very ſplendidly.

Pray ſend us the Queen's ſpeech immediately. We have no tidings of your ſhip. Once more, my dear Lord,

Your's ever.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, February 13th, ten at night, 1713.

I HAD ſealed the incloſed, and was going to Verſailles with the Duke of Shrewſbury, when the courier, Haywood, in his journey to Spain, brought me your Lordſhip's of the 24th and 26th; pray believe that I can never hear often enough from you, and that your orders muſt always guide me. I am very apprehenſive that the accident of the Duke d'Aumont's houſe being burnt, will be improved into a plot; and I know theſe people well enough to aſſure you, that many of them will be of the ſame opinion.

The article of commerce as agreed here, and returned for the approbation of what my Lord Duke declared upon it, has made all diſcourſe upon that ſubject uſeleſs; however, in anſwer to your's of the 24th, I cannot but obſerve, that what is expreſſed in my memorial of the 7th of January, which they call *remiſe par le Sieur Prior*, was received

ceived from Monſieur de Torcy, and ſent, not as concluſive, but as to be redreſſed, in order to be agreed, or as wholly to be rejected; and even there, prohibitions, *droits*, *& impôts*, the two latter words could be underſtood only as relative to *prohibitions*, and ſignifying *that all laws made in Great Britain for prohibiting the goods or merchandiſes of France, ſhall be repealed*, which are the words of the article from Utrecht, this being conſonant to the baſis upon which our commerce was to be ſettled, and this explication anſwering to the laſt words of my former propoſition; *nous tacherons d'ajuſter*, &c. which I ſent your Lordſhip incloſed in my letter from hence of the 29th December laſt.

Now again, I muſt own that, in civil and general terms, I thought I was to make them as eaſy as I could conſent to the *amiciſſima gens*, to which you ſee they have given another colour and turn, having endeavoured, as you ſee, to embroil and entangle this buſineſs, both at Utrecht and London, while they let it ſleep without ſaying one word of it here; nay, not even when, or ſince, they received the Latin article, which, I thank God! has not received an iota of alteration; but ſure, if they had underſtood that I was concerting with them ſo widely from what that article announces, they would have ſaid ſo, not only to me, but to the Duke of Shrewſbury; and their ſilence upon that head is a fairer argument than any I can frame by troubling you longer upon it. I will therefore leave it, when I have confeſſed the expreſſion is ſuch as is capable to be wreſted, if diſjoined, from the whole tenour of the negociation; but the offering to wreſt it, and ſending it to Utrecht as a thing done, was by no means fair or generous.

Upon another occaſion, I have ſomething of the like nature: it has been urged at London, that the ceſſion of Tournay was only made reciprocally, the Queen being obliged to procure for the Elector of Bavaria the proprietary poſſeſſion of the four places to which he pretended,

tended, or to get him Limburg inſtead of Luxembourg; whereas, the memorial with which I charged myſelf, when I waited on you in England, has a clauſe in it that particularly ſpecifies her Majeſty to be under no obligation, but that of her own generoſity; and the matter of Limburg was not ſo much as propoſed to me, nor had I heard of it, otherwiſe than in the general plan of peace, propoſed to be ſeparated from the Pays-Bas and given to the Elector Palatine, as an equivalent for the Upper Palatinate. *Mem. by Gaultier, in Nov.* 1711.

I have troubled you, my dear Lord, too long, I ſhall be conſtantly upon my guard, and more ſo than I have been with theſe people, being very glad that we have finiſhed with them, as to our own affairs, and impatient to hear what her Majeſty ſays to her Parliament on that head.

Give me leave, once more, to thank you for the kindneſs of your laſt letter, and to beg the continuance of your friendſhip.

I am ever, moſt truly,

Your Lordſhip's, &c.

M. Prior.

Sir Thomas Hanmer comes to you in very good humour, and very much ſatisfied as well with what he has ſeen done on our part*, as with the civilities which he has received from this nation, in which, you know, they never fail. Your little relation, who is as it were one of this nation, is very well. The Duke of Shrewſbury will do what he can in Monſieur Calandrini's buſineſs, and ſo, you may reſt aſſured, will I, in any thing relating to Lord Bolingbroke.

* Swift relates, to the contrary, that he was much out of humour with things, full of doubts and fears, and thought the peace kept off too long. There was ſome intention at this time of making him Secretary of State, in the room of Lord Dartmouth.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, February 16th, 1713.

THE Duke of Shrewſbury doing me the honour to let me always aſſiſt at the writing his letter, ſaves your Lordſhip ſome pains, and wholly ſecures my conduct: I cannot however, forbear to explain to your Lordſhip, what his Grace, with equal juſtice as generoſity, mentions in his: that Monſieur de Torcy avowed, that the propoſition which was in queſtion, was not only his, but a part of his propoſition, ſent, as all I did upon that head, not as conſented to by me here, but to be examined by you in England, and upon which I deſired your directions.

Though I am confident the two laſt couriers have cleared that whole point as we deſire, and though I am abſolutely aſſured, that your friendſhip to me will take away every thing that may tend to my diſadvantage, yet I cannot hold my pen ſtill, no more than your Lordſhip could, upon that ſubject; and though I eat, drink, and talk like other mortal men—*ſpem ſimulat vultu premit alto corde dolorem*, and I ſhall not be ſatisfied with myſelf, or the world, till I know from you that I am not blamed, I could write a quire upon the ſubject; but all, I hope, is well, and I long for the Queen's ſpeech to tell us ſo.

I am glad from my heart, that there is an equivalent propoſed, which I hope may ſatisfy the Duke of Savoy, becauſe, I know you have been a good deal ſolicited upon that point. We are this moment writing upon that ſubject to Utrecht.

I have writ ſome time ſince to you concerning entries, aſſiſtance at the renunciations, coach and equipage, in all which I rely upon that inviolable friendſhip on my ſide, with which you honour yours, ever,

MATT.

To-morrow

To-morrow is the Queen's birth-day, the Duke of Shrewſbury's goods are not come, ſo we can have no ball, but for eating and drinking, very much.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.*

My Lord,

Paris, Monday, 13th February, 1713. N.S.

I HERE incloſed ſend you the examinations of the Azzurinis, father and ſon†, as I received them from Monſieur de Torcy. Your Lordſhip will obſerve they are ſo ſhort of thoſe informations which were ſent

* Indorſed private; received 20th, by Sir Thomas Hanmer.

† Theſe two men appear to have been of that numerous tribe of daring adventurers, with which moſt countries in time of war abound. Under the mild government of Great Britain they were not ſo liable to an early detection; but in France, where, in general, every man's actions were known to the officers of the police, their ſituation was more dangerous, and their career very ſhort. The following are the accounts tranſmitted by the Duke of Shrewſbury; the firſt relates to the ſon who was in the Baſtile, the other to the father, who was in priſon at Longon:

"*Extrait des Interrogatoires du Chevalier Azzurini.*

"Auſſitôt que le Chevalier Azzurini eut été conduit à la Baſtille, Monſieur le Marquis de Torcy inſtruiſit Monſieur Dargenſon par un mémoire particulier, qui n'étoit que pour lui, de tout ce qui avoit rapport à ce priſonnier, de ſa conduite dans ſon voyage en Hollande, de ce qu'il avoit avancé aux Miniſtres des ennemis, & des promeſſes qu'il leur avoit faites, afin qu'il pût l'interroger ſur tous les points de ce mémoire.

"Le premier interrogatoire qu'il a ſubi, eſt du 7me Septembre, 1712. Il lui a rendu compte hiſtoriquement de ſa naiſſance, de ſon éducation, de quelques voyages qu'il avoit faits en Italie, & de celui qu'il fit à Paris, où il ſéjournât un an. Il paroît qu'il en partit an 1708, pour retourner en ſon pays.

"Il ſuppoſe que ſon père ait reçu, peu de tems après, des inſtructions pour paſſer en Angleterre, pour les affaires du Roi, & il marque qu'il partit avec lui pour s'y rendre; que ſon père y étant arrivé, avoit donné huit ou dix livres au ſecrétaire Eſpagnol du Comte Gallas, pour tirer de lui des ſecrets de ſon maître, pour les envoyer à Monſieur le Marquis de Torey; qu'il avoit auſſi fait de grands préſens à Monſieur de Netterville, qu'il dit être le confident de Monſieur le Comte d'Oxford, au Chevalier Penn, & au Sieur Plonket; mais qu'il ne ſavoit pas en quoi conſiſtoit ces préſens: que Monſieur de Netterville inſtruiſoit ſon père de tout, le connoiſſant pour être chargé d'ordres du Roi; que le Chevalier Giraldi (1) qu'on leur avoit dit être partiſan de France, leur en avoit paru très éloigné: qu'ils avoient découvert par le ſécrétaire du Comte Gallas, qu'il étoit penſionnaire de l'Archiduc, & qu'il étoit attaché aux Whigs; que Monſieur Grimani avoit le cœur François; que pour brouiller le Chevalier Giraldi avec le Comte Gallas, ils avoient inſinué au dernier, par le Sieur Primoli, ſon premier ſecrétaire, qu'il trahiſſoit ſon parti, que le Chevalier

(1) Envoy from Tuſcany.

ſent from Holland, that I think it were to be wiſhed either copies of thoſe papers, or at leaſt an extract of ſome of the principal heads, might be ſent hither, upon which they would examine him more properly

Azzurini, père, faiſſoit de fauſſes confidences au Comte Gallas pour le brouiller avec le gouvernement d'Angleterre.

" Le Chevalier Azzurini dit que juſqu'alors il s'étoit inſinué chez Madame la Ducheſſe de Shrewſbury, Mademoiſelle Malloſte, Miladi Waldegrave, Madame la Ducheſſe de Buckingham, Miladi Butler, Miladi Hogletorit, & chez pluſieurs autres dames de qualité, pour rapporter à ſon père ce qu'on y diſoit; qu'il avoit de grandes eſpérances d'épouſer une fille de my Lord Suſſex; qu'il avoit attendu une occaſion favorable de paſſer en Angleterre, pour faire cette alliance, & qu'il en voyoit les eſpérances perdues par ſa priſon; qu'il sût par le ſieur Primoli qu'un faux Thoris, qui demeure dans le Parc de St. James, & dont la maiſon eſt environnée d'une grille, avoit dit au Comte Gallas, que ſon père & lui étoient envoyés par la cour de France, & que ce Comte s'en étoit expliqué avec my Lord d'Oxford; que le Comte Gallas lui ayant propoſé de lui révéler les ſecrets de ſon père, il feignit d'y conſentir, lui remit un chiffre Italien qu'il avoit encore, mais que ſon deſſein étoit de ne dire que ce qui conviendroit aux intérêts du Roi; qu'après un ſéjour de neuf mois en Angleterre ils avoient été obligés d'en ſortir par ordre de la cour, & qu'étant repaſſé en France, ils y avoient ſéjourné, juſqu'à ce que ſon père partant pour l'Italie, il ſe rendit de ſon côté en Hollande, & qu'ils reçurent à Paris environ pour 6000ls. de lettres de change d'Italie; que le Comte Gallas lui fit préſent au mois de 7bre, 1711, pendant qu'il étoit encore à Londres, d'une bague qu'il vendit *peu de jours après* pour 3400ls."

" *Deuxième interrogatoire, du 20me Septembre, 1712.*

" Le Sieur Azzurini, dit dans ſon ſecond interrogatoire, que ſon père & lui ne reçurent à Paris que 1400ls. en lettres de changes venues d'Italie, & qu'il avoit reçu en ſon particulier 3400ls. provenant du prix de ſa bague qu'il avoit laiſſée en Angleterre; & que ſon père avoit vendu à Paris ce qui lui reſte de ſa vaiſſelle d'argent, & de quelques pierreries qu'il avoit vendues à Londres, & dont il avoit tiré 1500 guinées. Il a répondu aux queſtions qui lui ont été faites ſur ſon voyage d'Hollande, ſur la conduite qu'il a tenue, qu'étant ſujet d'un Prince neutre, il avoit cru être libre; que Monſieur le Marquis de Torcy lui ayant dit de ſe mettre en état d'aller à Utrecht, pour y faire connoître le Sieur Plonket, il avoit enſuite changé de deſſein, & qu'il avoit été ſi chagrin de ce qu'on ne vouloit pas l'employer, & qu'on lui préféra l'Abbé Gaultier, qu'il ſe propoſa de chercher fortune; qu'il ſe rendit à Utrecht à deſſein de paſſer enſuite en Angleterre, comme il l'avoit écrit aux my Lords d'Oxford, de Buckingham, de Bolingbroke, & au Chevalier Penn; qu'à ſon arrivée à Utrecht il n'avoit vu que Monſieur Meſnager, qui le reçut froidement, & qu'ayant été voir le Sieur Primoli, connu pour un Emiſſaire de l'Archiduc, il lui propoſa de ſervir ce Prince, & de quitter le ſervice du Roi, dont il paroiſſoit mécontent; qu'il lui promit de grands avantages, entre autres un caractère, & des penſions ſur le Mantouan, lui repréſentant que ce Prince, maître comme il l'étoit de l'Italie, pouvoit faire beaucoup de bien ou de mal à ſa famille; que même il pourroit lui donner quelques à Naples ou à Milan; qu'il conſentit à aller avec lui à la Haye, & que le Sieur Primoli l'introduiſit auprès du Comte Sinzendorf, qui le reçut favorablement, & lui rendit ſa viſite; qu'il dîna ce jour-là chez ce Miniſtre, & que le Penſionnaire Heinſius y étant venu, ils eurent tous trois une conférence, & que le Comte lui ayant répété ce que Monſieur Primoli lui avoit dit, des avantages qu'il pouvoit trouver dans le ſervice de l'Archiduc, & de ce qu'il y avoit à craindre dans le parti oppoſé, le Penſionnaire Heinſius lui fit auſſi les mêmes repréſentations; qu'il ne répondit rien de poſitif à ces propoſitions, & qu'il demanda que ſon père n'en eut point de connoiſſance, parce qu'il étoit attaché à la France; qu'il demeura cinq ou ſix jours encore à la Haye, ſans conférer davantage avec ces Miniſtres; qu'il revint à Utrecht, où il vit tous les Miniſtres étrangers, excepté ceux du Roi, & qu'étant retourné à la Haye, il eut une ſeconde conférence avec les mêmes perſonnes;

perly upon thoſe points, than they have yet done, and particularly to any thing that ſhould be ſuggeſted to them.

Having

ſonnes; que l'on répéta ce qui avoit été dit dans la première; qu'il demeura à la Haye huit ou dix jours, & que manquant d'argent, le Sieur Primoli lui prêta 150 florins, & le Sieur de la Martiniere, François refugié, 23 louis-d'ors; qu'étant retourné à Utrecht, il vit Monſieur Meſnager, qui le reçut favorablement, & qui le préſenta à Monſieur le Marquis d'Huxelles, & à Monſieur l'Abbé de Polignac, qui le firent manger à leur table, & lui propoſèrent d'aller ſervir le Roi en Angleterre, ce qu'il accepta; qu'il conſentit de venir recevoir ſes inſtructions à la Cour, & qu'ils lui donnèrent 21 piſtoles pour l'aider à faire ſon voyage."

" *Troiſième Interrogatoire du 21me Septembre*, 1712.

" Il rend compte de ſon voyage, & il aſſure qu'il n'avoit point reçu de lettres depuis ſon arrivée à Paris; qu'il n'avoit point donné d'avis de ſon départ au Comte Sinzendorf, au Penſionnaire Heinſius, ni au Sieur Primoli; que même pour faire voir au Comte de Sinzendorf qu'il n'avoit pas beſoin d'argent, il lui montra pluſieurs fauſſes lettres de change; qu'il avoit écrit d'Utrecht au Comte Gallas, & qu'il avoit des rélations intimes avec deux Secrétaires de Monſieur le Marquis de Torcy, qui lui révéloient le ſecret de la France, & qu'il ſeroit en état de l'en inſtruire; qu'il n'avoit eu en vue par cette ſuppoſition que de tromper ce Miniſtre, & de ſe rendre plus récommandable, ces intelligences étant abſolument imaginaires; qu'il n'avoit pas parlé ſur cela à Monſieur Sinzendorf, ni à Monſieur le Penſionnaire; que le Comte Gallas lui avoit répondu en termes généraux; qu'il ne s'étoit point expliqué avec lui ſur la récompenſe qu'il pouvoit attendre, mais qu'étant encore en Angleterre, il lui promit une Baronie dans le Mantouan, qu'il croit être celle de St. Archange, confiſqué ſur * de Bague; qu'il informat le Comte Gallas du deſſein qu'on avoit de l'envoyer de Paris à Utrecht, & du changement arrivé à cet égard. Il s'eſt trouvé dans ſes hardes pluſieurs paquets étiquétés, priſe de la poudre du Comte de Palma, & il a dit que cette poudre étoit purgative; il y avoit auſſi quelques autres poudres dont on n'avoit pas encore fait l'eſſai, entr'autres de la poudre de la ſympathie. Il a aſſuré qu'il n'avoit donné aucun mémoire au Comte Sinzendorf, ni au Miniſtre d'Hollande, qu'il avoit ſeulement écrit d'Utrecht au Premier pour le remercier des aſſurances de ſon eſtime, & pour lui marquer qu'il ſeroit content de lui, s'il l'engageoit au ſervice de l'Archiduc; qu'il avoit réſiſté aux inſtances que le Comte de Gallas lui avoit faites pour le faire déclarer publiquement en Italie & à Rome pour l'Archiduc; qu'il n'avoit parlé qu'en général au Comte Sinzendorf, au Penſionnaire ſur l'état des affaires du Roi, leur diſant qu'elles ſe ruinoient par la déſunion entre les Miniſtres de ſa Majeſté, & qu'en cela il avoit en vue ſon intérêt perſonnel; que les deux conférences qu'il avoit eues avec eux, n'avoient duré qu'un quart d'heure chacune. Enfin que le chagrin de n'être pas employé, & de ne recevoir ni récompenſe ni penſion, quoique ſon père lui eût tranſporté le droit de toutes les récompenſes qu'il croyoit avoir méritées, l'avoit déterminé à la démarche qu'il avoit faite; que dans le tems de ces deux conférences, il ne ſavoit pas qu'on dût lui propoſer de retourner en Angleterre pour le ſervice du Roi, & qu'il n'en a rien confié à ces Miniſtres depuis les ouvertures qui lui ont été faites par les Plénipotentiaires de ſa Majeſté."

" *Extrait de ce qui a été écrit par rapport au Sieur Azzurini & des lettres qu'il a écrites de ſa Priſon.*

Février 5me, 1713.

" Le Comte Azzurini partit de Paris au mois de Mai, 1712, pour retourner en Italie, & après avoir paſſé quelque tems à Faenſe, ſa patrie, il ſe rendit à Rome, au mois d'Août de la même année. Comme il n'avoit aucune affaire en cette ville, & que ſa dépenſe y devoit excéder certainement ſes revenus, on fut ſurpris qu'il parût s'y arrêter pour long-tems, & l'on en conçut dès alors du

* Two words illegible.

ſoupçon

Having diſcourſed with Monſieur de Torcy, upon all the heads mentioned in your letter of the 20th, which relate to the intereſts of

ſoupçon. La trahiſon de ſon fils fut ſu à Rome au commencement de Septembre, & cette nouvelle rendant le père entièremeut ſuſpect, on examina avec ſoin ſa conduite; on ſut qu'il ſe plaignoit vivement à ſes amis, de ce que ſes ſervices n'avoient pas été aſſez récompenſés en France, & qu'il tenoit des diſcours qui pouvoient faire croire qu'il avoit pris quelques engagemens ſecrets avec les ennemis du Roi, & l'on réſolut de s'aſſurer de ſa perſonne, tant pour éclaircir des ſoupçons auſſi bien fondés, que pour découvrir plus facilement par ſon moyen les intrigues de ſon fils, dont il étoit vraiſemblablement accomplice.

" On lui propoſa de ſe rendre à Longon, pour viſiter cette place, & pour rendre compte de l'état où elle ſe trouvoit, mais il parut ſe défier de l'intention des miniſtres, en qui il devoit avoir une confiance aveugle, ſi ſa conſcience ne lui eût rien reproché, & il n'accepta pas d'abord cette commiſſion. Il partit de Rome au mois d'Octobre, & il paroît par une lettre qu'il à écrite de ſa priſon à un nommé Albaneſe, ſon ami intime, qu'ils avoient concerté enſemble, s'il iroit ou non à Longon, & quoiqu'il ſe fut enfin déterminé à s'y rendre, il craignoit toujours d'y être arrêté.

" Lorſque l'on eût appris à Rome que ſa perſonne étoit en ſureté, on s'addreſſa au Pape pour ſe ſaiſir auſſi de ſes papiers; ſa Sainteté donna ſes ordres pour cet effet; mais ſoit qu'Azzurini les eût détournés avant que de ſortir de Rome, ſoit que ſes amis avertis des intentions du Pape, euſſent prévenu les officiers de ſa Sainteté, en enlevant tout ce qui pouvoit être de conſéquence, on ne trouva que des lettres peu importantes. On a ſu depuis par une voie sûre que le nommé Albaneſe avoit dit, *que les papiers d'Azzurini étoient déjà chez le Marquis de Prie, lorſqu'on a voulu s'en ſaiſir, qu'il avoit été averti par un particulier des ordres que le Pape avoit donnés, & qu'ils n'étoient pas aſſez imprudens pour ſe laiſſer ainſi ſurprendre.* On a retenu toutes les lettres qu'il a écrites de ſe priſon à pluſieurs de ſes amis. On y voit par tout un eſprit inquiet au déſeſpoir de s'être laiſſé prendre, & perſuadé qu'il ne recouvreroit pas ſa liberté, s'il n'employoit des voies extraordinaires, comme de corrompre ceux qui le gardoient, ou d'engager le Pape à le redemander comme ſon ſujet. Il eſt vrai qu'il marque à ſon fils, dont il ignoroit la priſon, & à pluſieurs de ſes amis, d'agir auprès des Miniſtres de France & d'Eſpagne pour obtenir ſa liberté, mais il paroît ſe méfier de la bonté de ſa cauſe, & compter peu ſur leurs repréſentations, & il croit qu'ils feront mieux de s'adreſſer au Pape ſon Souverain, ou de tâcher de le ſauver par adreſſe. Il ne reſpire que vengeance, auſſitôt qu'il ſera en liberté, & il recommande à ſon fils de profiter de ſon malheur & de ne ſe plus fier a perſonne.

" Il a cru avoir gagné un valet-de-chambre du Gouverneur de Longon, & il lui a confié des lettres, croyant qu'elles ſeroient tenues plus certainement par ſon moyen. Il y en a deux qui paroiſſent marquer évidemment ſes relations avec les ennemis. Elles ſont adreſſées au *Comte Polydor*, ſous une enveloppe pour une perſonne qui devoit les lui faire tenir. Azzurini lui marque que s'il n'avoit pas été arrêté à Longon, il l'auroit été voir en retournant à Faenze, pour lui offrir ſes ſervices en faveur du *Seigneur Alexandre*. Il le prie d'ordonner aux conſuls qui ſont ſous ſes ordres à Livourne & à Porto Feraio, de s'entendre pour envoyer à Longon une barque avec de bons rameurs, eſpérant que le valet-de-chambre la feroit approcher de l'endroit où il étoit, & qu'ils ſe ſauveroient enſemble. Il paroît ne point douter que le *Comte Polidor* ne s'intéreſſe à ſon évaſion. Il lui marque néanmoins que lorſqu'il ſera auprès de lui, il lui montrera que ſa délivrance ne ſera pas inutile, ayant de quoi payer ce ſervice important, & il le ſupplie de faire donner une compagnie de cavalerie, au valet-de-chambre, qui lui paroiſſoit ſouhaiter d'être au ſervice du *Seigneur Alexandre*. Il ſigne au bas de ces lettres Don Diego de Villamajor, au lieu d'Azzurini; il eſt clair que le nom du *Seigneur Alexandre*, ne peut deſigner autre choſe que l'Archiduc, & celui de *Comte Polidor* ne peut s'attribuer qu'à un de ſes miniſtres, qui puiſſe faire donner une compagnie de cavalerie, & qui puiſſe commander aux conſuls Allemands en Italie, & ce qui confirme cette conjecture, c'eſt qu'Azzurini dit au valet-de-chambre en lui remettant les deux lettres, *qu'elles étoient addreſſées à celui qui tenoit la première main en Italie & à qui ce valet-de-chambre pouvoit ſouhaiter qu'il s'addreſſât*, lui tenant ce diſcours parce qu'il le croyoit partiſan caché de l'Archiduc. Ainſi l'on a lieu de croire que celui à qui Azzurini s'addreſſe ſous le nom du *Comte Polidor*, ne peut être que le Marquis de Prie, ou le Duc d'Uçeda. Il a connu particulièrement ce dernier, lorſqu'il étoit attaché à Monſieur le Cardinal de Janſon, & il a pu ſe faire connoître de l'autre par le moyen du nommé Albaneſe."

the ſeveral allies, he has promiſed to tell me, on Wedneſday, the utmoſt that can be done to accommodate thoſe differences; ſo that, as yet, it is to no purpoſe to trouble you with a letter in form upon the ſubject. I am ſorry to acquaint you that I find ſo little inclination in this Court to yield the Duke of Savoy the villages he demands, that whenever I have mentioned it, they will hardly bear the diſcourſe. At laſt, I thought better to try the exchange your Lordſhip gave me power to offer, and even that is received in ſuch a manner, that though I have writ and ſpoke all I can urge upon it, I have little hope of its being accepted; however, as yet, I have not a final anſwer.

I muſt not omit to acknowlege your Lordſhip's of the 22d January, O.S. and I hope the firſt votes of both Houſes will be of ſuch a nature, as to put you in better humour. I am this minute going to Verſailles, to ſtay there till Wedneſday, when the King removes to Marli.

I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

I juſt now hear the ſad accident happened to the Duke d'Aumont, I write to him to offer him my houſe, till he can provide himſelf better.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, February 13th, 1713, N.S.

BY the courier going for Spain, I have received ſeveral packets from your Lordſhip, but being ready to take coach for Verſailles, I have not time to enter into all the particulars. The chief is anſwered, I hope, by this Court's having agreed to the article of commerce, as you ſent it over.

As

As to the fire at the Duke d'Aumont's houſe, I confeſs, I cannot ſuſpect it to be done by malice, but rather by chance, and ſhall endeavour to repreſent it ſo here, not only as moſt creditable to our nation, but as, in my opinion, moſt profitable.

Mr. Prior has had a petition relating to the Eaſt India Company's ſhip, the ſame you have ſent; if it were taken within the time of the ſuſpenſion, our claim is juſt; if not, as I doubt our caſe will prove, we can pretend no right, and the beſt turn we can give, is to aſk to buy it at a reaſonable price, for which we have the precedent of Sir Thomas Hardy's prize *.

When I complained I had heard nothing, I was very far from expecting it from you, whoſe exactneſs deſerves no reproach from,

My Lord, your Lordſhip's, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, February 16, 1713, N.S.

BY the return of the gentleman who brought to this Court an account of the Duke d'Aumont's houſe being burnt, I ſend you this letter to inform you, that I have taken all occaſions to repreſent it as the effect of a mere accident, rather than of any previous malice; and I think the greateſt, as well as the moſt conſiderable part of the people here, are inclined to believe it ſuch: the friends of the family may be excuſed, if they endeavour to have it imputed to malice, the better to juſtify their aſking the King to repair the loſs.

* A French Eaſt-Indiaman, the Griffin; the price 35,000l.

In

In my laſt I told you I much doubted, if, in the Duke of Savoy's behalf, I ſhould be able to gain the exchange propoſed: this Court continues ſo utterly averſe to it, that I find the alternative cannot be obtained: but upon my inſiſting that the tops of the Alps ought to be the common boundary between France and Piémont, they have ſo far conſented to the argument, as to offer to give the Duke of Savoy the extent of territory marked yellow in the map which you ſent me, upon condition his Royal Highneſs will yield to them *la Vallée de Barcelonette, avec les douze communautés dont elle eſt compoſée*, alledging, they have equal or ſtronger reaſons to deſire the conceſſion, for the ſecuring their barrier, than the Duke of Savoy can pretend for the territory which he aſks, and of this I have ſent an account to Utrecht.

I was very glad to find there was no occaſion of my mentioning to Monſieur de Torcy, the affair of the ſix French ſhips deſigned for the South Sea: he himſelf began to tell me, that the King was convinced that the arguments you had uſed to the Marquis de Monteleon, were ſo juſt, that he had already given orders for recalling of them; being, as Monſieur de Torcy expreſſed it, reſolved never to give the leaſt ſuſpicion of his intending, to his ſubjects, any advantage, that could not be juſtified by the treaties he makes with her Majeſty. I muſt do them juſtice in this proceeding, and wiſh they dealt as fairly with Mr. Prior; but I conclude all that matter is over. However, I am obliged to tell you that, in my hearing, Monſieur de Torcy acknowledged it was his propoſition which they produce, and he will ſay ſo to your Lordſhip, or to any body elſe, if required.

The petition of the Eaſt India Company doth not ſpecify the time of the ſhip's being taken, which will give the greateſt difference imaginable to the manner of reclaiming it. Mr. Arbuthnot* is here, and

* Brother to Dr. Arbuthnot, the Queen's Phyſician.

will ſolicit the buſineſs, in which he ſhall have my beſt aſſiſtance. Mr. Prior, upon the like petition tranſmitted to him by the Earl of Dartmouth, and a letter from Mr. Welden, proprietor of the ſhip, has obtained of Monſieur de Pontchartrain orders, that that gentleman be well treated, and that the goods ſhall be ſecured in the King's magazines, till judgment be given in the cauſe, and of this he has wrote to Lord Dartmouth.

I am, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, the 22d February, 1713. N.S.

I AM very glad to find by your letter of the 4th, that her Majeſty is ſatisfied with the article of commerce, and the explanatory paper which I gave to the French Miniſters upon it; and that her Majeſty judges, that all the material differences between her and France, are now adjuſted.

I received letters from the Lords at Utrecht, bearing almoſt the ſame date with that which you ſent to me, incloſed in yours, and much in the ſame complaining ſtyle; upon which having ſpoke to Monſieur de Torcy, he told me, that he had already writ to their Plenipotentiaries in ſuch a manner, as that he had reaſon to believe the next letters would ſhow that their differences were nearer to an accommodation; and accordingly by theſe, ſince received, I found they were ſo; their laſt to me is of the 17th inſtant, in which they ſay, that the only difficulty in the treaty of commerce is concerning the addition propoſed by Monſieur Meſnager of

the words *nec fuerint*; as in the incloſed paper * upon which Monſieur de Torcy having ſpoke to the King, he has told me in a conference I had with him this evening, that it ſhall be adjuſted at Utrecht as we deſire to have it.

In the treaty of peace, they ſaid, there ſtill remained two difficulties, one is about the immoveable eſtates to be diſpoſed of in the places which France is to yield up or reſtore; which we thought was adjuſted by the paper ſent by Mr. Prior, January 19th, and which you have likewiſe herein incloſed †: it certainly is ſo as to Hudſon's Bay in particular; Monſieur de Torcy ſays, that as far as he knows, the whole affair ſtands at Utrecht in the manner as this incloſed paper ‡ ſpecifies; we are not ſufficiently appriſed here what effect it will have as to St. Chriſtopher's, but will not queſtion but that you give plain directions on this head at Utrecht,

* *The Fifth Article of Commerce*, nec fuerint, *runs thus:*

" Subditis ûtriuſque Regiæ Majeſtatis, libertas ſit & poteſtas, cum ſuis navibus, ut & mercibus rebuſque iiſdem impoſitis, quorum commercium aut aſportatio legibus utriuſque regni prohibita non ſunt (here the French Miniſters would add, nec fuerint) ad utriuſque partis terras, &c. appellere.

" The reaſon they alledge is, that they find a like expreſſion in their treaties with the Dutch, made at Nimeguen and Ryſwick, and have a general order to keep as near as they can to thoſe treaties.

† *Mémoire concerté avec Monſieur de Torcy, le* 19*me Janvier*, 1713.

" Les habitans dans la Baye de Hudſon, ſujets de ſa Majeſté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, qui ont été dépoſſédés de leurs terres par ceux de la France, en tems de paix, ſeront entièrement & immédiatement après la ratification de ce traité, reſtitués & remis dans la poſſeſſion de leurs dites terres; & tels propriétaires auront auſſi une ſatisfaction juſte & raiſonnable ſur toutes leurs pertes qu'ils ont ſouffertes, à regard de leur biens, meubles, & effets, leſquelles pertes ſeront réglées par le jugement des Commiſſaires qui doivent être nommés à cette fin, & obligés par ſerment de faire rendre juſtice aux intéreſſés.

‡ " Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne avoient juſqu'à préſent diſtingué les lieux cédés par le Roi à la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, les & lieux qu'ils appelloient reſtitués. Sous le nom de lieux reſtitués ils comprenoient la Baye & le Détroit d'Hudſon, & l'île de Terreneuve. Ils conſentoient à laiſſer aux François établis dans les lieux cédés, la faculté de vendre leurs biens immeubles. Mais ils prétendoient que cette même liberté ne devoit pas leur être permiſe dans les lieux reſtitués, ſuppoſant que ces immeubles avoient été enlevés aux Anglois, & qu'ils devoient y rentrer de plein droit. Aujourd'hui Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne ne font plus de diſtinction des lieux cédés & des lieux reſtitués, quoique la même expreſſion demeure dans l'article 14. Ils laiſſent ſeulement aux ſujets du Roi la faculté de ſortir également des uns & des autres, ſi bon leur ſemble, dans l'eſpace d'un an, avec tous leurs biens & meubles. Suivant les conditions dont on eſt demeuré d'accord, il doit être ſtipulé que les François établis dans l'Acadie, ou dans l'île de St. Chriſtophe, auront la faculté d'en ſortir, *de vendre*, ou d'emporter ailleurs, tous leurs biens meubles, ſi bon leur ſemble, & de vendre leurs biens immeubles. Qu'à l'égard des lieux qui ſeront reſtitués à la Baye & au Détroit d'Hudſon, les Anglois rentreront en jouiſſance des immeubles dont ils auront été dépoſſédés, pourvu qu'ils juſtifient devant les Commiſſaires par des preuves valables, que ces biens auront effectivement appartenu à leurs pères, ou à eux-mêmes.

Utrecht, both as to the diſpoſal of goods moveable and immoveable, and the time in which it may be done.

The other difficulty is the diſpute concerning the thirty leagues from Acadie, as the diſtance within which the French are not to fiſh; our Plenipotentiaries ſay *that they* (the French) *are content not to fiſh at all upon the coaſt*; *but are ordered not to admit that preciſe determination*; our claim upon this head was founded upon the aſſertion, that when Acadie was in the French hands, we were liable to the ſame reſtriction. Your Lordſhip by looking upon the propoſition * and the extract of Mr. Prior's letter of the 8th of January †, will find, that we thought the matter already accommodated; Monſieur de Torcy alledges upon this, that their promiſe not to fiſh upon the Bank, anſwers all that can be required, and the naming a determinate diſtance, ſo far from the ſhore, can only ſerve to create new diſputes. Monſieur de Torcy acquaints me, that the Coun-

"Quant à l'île de Terreneuve, on eſt demeuré d'accord, que les François doivent avoir la faculté de vendre les maiſons qu'ils auront à Plaiſance, & les terres de frichées autour, parce que la Ville de Plaiſance étoit bâtie par eux, jamais ces biens n'ont été poſſédés par les Anglois.

"Le terme qui ſera donné aux François pour vendre leurs effets, doit être de dix-huit mois; car autrement ils auroient peine à diſpoſer de ce qui leur appartient dans un tems auſſi court que celui d'un an."

* *Reçu de Monſieur de Torcy, & renvoyé au my Lord Bolingbroke, 29th Décembre*, 1712, N.S.

"*Propoſition concertée avec le Sieur Prior.*

"Que l'île de Cap-Breton demeurera au Roi, avec la liberté d'y faire fortifier. Que la province de l'Acadie, avec tous les droits & prérogatives, dont les François ont joui, ſera cédée par ſa Majeſte à la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, avec l'île de Terreneuve, & les îles adjacentes à cette île, bien entendu, que les François auront & conſerveront la faculté de pêcher, & de ſécher leur pêche ſur les côtes de la dite île de Terreneuve depuis le Cap de Bonaviſta en remontant par le Nord juſqu'à la Pointe Riche. Que toutes les îles ſituées à l'entrée de la rivière, & dans la Golfe de St. Laurent, appartiendront au Roi.

"Add to this,

"The Iſle de Sable is likewiſe yielded to her Majeſty, and makes the boundary on the ſide of Acadie towards the eaſt."

† *Extract of a letter from Mr. Prior to my Lord Bolingbroke, dated the 8th January*, 1713.

"The demand that our Plenipotentiaries make, that the French ſhall not fiſh within thirty leagues of the ſouth-end of Acadie, *i. e.* upon the Long Bank, which runs from weſt to eaſt before the country, was founded upon this aſſertion, that while Acadie was in the French hands we were obliged to the like reſtriction, and conſequently the words in the propoſal lately ſent, 'Que la province de l'Acadie, avec tous les Droits & prérogatives dont les François ont joui, ſera cédée par ſa Majeſté à la Reine de la Grande Bretagne,' admits our claim, and finiſhes the diſpute, as Monſieur de Torcy obſerves in the incloſed Memorial."

cil

cil here, upon the peruſal of the treaty, have obſerved that the title of Electreſs cannot be given to the Princeſs Sophia, in a treaty ſo ſolemnly made, till France has actually owned the Houſe of Hanover to be electoral; they propoſe to leave out the word *electricem*, letting the reſt ſtand as it doth. Your Lordſhip will believe I uſed the beſt arguments I could to have it paſſed, and that this King, on the other ſide, inſiſts upon the unreaſonableneſs of his acknowledging a title in that houſe, which is actually in war with him, and treats the Elector of Bavaria and Cologne, as people under the ban of the empire, and even King Philip, as Duke of Anjou: you will alſo obſerve, that in caſe the Emperor makes his peace before the ratification of ours, the omiſſion will be ſupplied in the engroſſed inſtrument.

Two other objections have been made by the King himſelf, as overſeen by his Plenipotentiaries, both relating to religion: one is, that in the places either yielded or reſtored to us, any inhabitant, being a Papiſt, who ſhall chooſe to continue her Majeſty's ſubject, may have the free uſe of his religion; the other is the latter part of the fifth article of commerce, which I here incloſe *, with my obſervations thereupon, and ſhall conform myſelf as your anſwer may direct.

* *Latter part of the fifth article of Commerce.*

"The firſt paragraph is agreed to.

"The ſecond I was willing to ſend over for your farther conſideration; for that, beſides the exception which the King makes to it here, I doubt it is contrary to our acts of Parliament in England, and would in effect tolerate a maſs in every Frenchman's family.

"The third they admit, inſerting the words *in quacunque occaſione*, or ſuch other words as may prevent its being thought that a public burial-place ſhould be ſet aſide for every nation."

" In re autem religionis integrâ ſubditis utriuſque fœderatorum, ut & ſi matrimonium contraxerint, eorum uxoribus, ac liberis conſtabit libertas, neque in eccleſiis aut alibi ſacris intereſſe, cogendi erunt.

" Ipſis autem e contrario, Rem divinam ſuo more etiamſi legibus vetito, privatim, & inter proprios parietes, & abſque aliorum quorumcunque interventu facere, omnino & abſque ulla moleſtia licebit.

" Facultas porro defunctos utriuſque partis in alterius detionibus ſubditos, locis commodis & honeſtis, ad id deſignandis, ſepeliendi deneganda non erit, neque ſepultorum cadavera ullâ moleſtiâ afficienda erunt."

From what relates immediately to our own affairs, we proceeded to thoſe of our allies; Monſieur de Torcy takes it for granted, that when the King yielded Tournay, there was no exception allowed as to St. Amand and Mortagne; and that my Lord Strafford has ſaid at Utrecht, that he has orders not to inſiſt on account of thoſe places; and as to the dependencies of Ipres, what they offered in the preſent plan of peace was, *Ipres & ſa Châtellenie*, which cannot be conſtrued to mean thoſe diſtricts, which the Dutch aſk, and which were mentioned by name, when once offered by the French in the preliminaries of 1709.

I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

P.S. By my Lord Lexington's letter I was very ſorry to find the difficulty the King of Spain makes in regard to the Catalans; Monſieur de Torcy promiſes, that this Court ſhall write to ſoften that of Spain as much as can be on that ſubject.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.*

MY LORD,

Paris, February, 22d, 1712. N.S.

I HAVE not failed to do what your Lordſhip recommended me in cypher, in your laſt private letter of the 4th; I find they have no great opinion of the man, nevertheleſs your caution was not unneceſſary, and will do good.

I confeſs myſelf at a loſs to gueſs what her Majeſty will ſay at the opening of this ſeſſion, when we have neither peace nor war; when though it were moſt deſirable to ſign together with all the allies, yet it is

* Private.

certain

certain that it is impoſſible to be done of ſome months, if we ſtay for the Emperor and the empire; and if I do not miſtake, the French ſee well enough our circumſtances to be convinced, the longer we remain in theſe uncertainties, the leſs able we ſhall be to ſtand upon terms either for ourſelves or our allies.

The Miniſters here pretend to certain intelligence that the Imperialiſts ſeek nothing but delay, hoping that ſome great turn in their favour, from this king's great age, or our Queen's ill health; and that Prince Eugene is going to the Hague full of hopes to carry on the war. But what concerns me moſt is, that ſpring, the ſeaſon of action, comes on apace, and we have not yet ſecured our peace, nor made preparations for war. I think it is time to ſpeak clearly, and tell this Court what you expect for your allies, and what for yourſelves, with aſſurance, that what you aſk being granted, you are ready to ſign, and to invite the others to do the ſame. It is now near your Lordſhip's hour of writing, at night, and I am very weary, but very ſincerely,

My Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, February 13th, 1712-13.

I KNEW nothing of the matter mentioned in your Lordſhip's private letter of the 18th till this morning. My firſt care was to ſpeak to Sir William Windham *, and he aſſured me that there had been nothing done but in conſequence of a general rule laid down by the Queen upon the reduction of her forces; that he would write to your Lordſhip

* Secretary at War.

about

about it, and that he flattered himſelf you would be ſatisfied there was not the leaſt ground to look upon this as a hardſhip. In the mean while, I believe he delays the ſignification of the Queen's pleaſure.

As to the caſe of Mr. Harvey, I can upon my own knowledge aſſure your Lordſhip, that you have been miſinformed; he was ſo far from having the nomination of his officer, that the Queen gave the troop againſt his recommendation.

If Don Lewis * will take care of his own maſter's intereſt, we will endeavour to take care of the Queen's. I am ſorry to find his intelligence is no better.

I ſhall do myſelf the honour to write to the King of Pruſſia, and ſhall take the liberty to recommend my letter to your Lordſhip by the next poſt. The little waſp, Bonet, plagues me about his ſubſidies; God knows, I can give him no anſwer; he fancies I will give him none.

I have ſolicited Mr. Ayerſt's † cauſe; whether I ſhall ſucceed or not I know not, the Queen having many engagements upon her hands.

I am, &c.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

My Lord,

Whitehall, February 17th, 1712-13.

IT falls again to my ſhare to convey her Majeſty's orders to your Grace, upon the preſent ſtate of the negociation of peace, and I cannot but hope that the effect of the reſolutions which the Queen is now come to, will be an immediate concluſion of the treaty between her and France; at leaſt we ſhall extricate ourſelves from this ſtate of

* Probably Da Cunha the Portugal Plenipotentiary.
† Chaplain to the Earl of Strafford.

ſuſpence

ſuſpence, which the ſeaſon of the year renders it very unſafe to continue longer in, and ſhall know what we have to truſt to on the part of France. Her Majeſty's conduct will appear fair and uniform to the whole world, while that of the Court, where your Grace at preſent reſides, will have a quite contrary aſpect, if they do not accept theſe overtures, and cloſe with the Queen at once. But I aſk pardon for troubling your Grace with this preface, and proceed to communicate to you her Majeſty's ſenſe, and her directions, as I received them laſt night, in Council.

As ſoon as this diſpatch comes to your Grace's hands, her Majeſty would have you, either in a conference with the French miniſters, or in a memorial to be delivered to Monſieur de Torcy, or in both, make, in her name, a repreſentation to the following effect.

That the Queen has hitherto deferred the opening of the Parliament, in hopes that theſe few difficulties which remain undetermined, either in the treaty of peace and of commerce between Great Britain and France, or in the diſcuſſion of the intereſts of her Majeſty's allies, would have been entirely got over, or at leaſt that the former being taken away, France would have made ſuch offers upon the latter, as might have enabled the Queen to have ſigned her treaty, without any farther regard to thoſe parties, who ſhould not have thought fit to conclude at the ſame time. That the laſt letters, which her Majeſty has received from your Grace, as well as from her Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, not anſwering this hope, which ſhe had conceived, but on the contrary, ſhowing that ſome few differences ſtill remain undecided, in the treaty between her Majeſty and the Moſt Chriſtian King, and that very little farther progreſs has been made, towards ſettling the intereſts of thoſe powers, whoſe demands have met with the greateſt oppoſition, her Majeſty has judged it abſolutely neceſſary to communicate her ſentiments in this important criſis, and the mea-

ſures which ſhe is determined to follow, to his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, ſincerely, and without the leaſt reſerve.

That the fruit which ſhe expects from this full communication of her intentions, is, either by theſe means to haſten the concluſion of the general peace, between her Majeſty and the Crowns of France and Spain, or elſe, at the worſt, to prevent at this ſeaſon of the year, and the approach of ſpring, any ſurpriſe on either ſide; that you have received from the Queen, and are ready to communicate to the King, her Majeſty's laſt reſolutions, as well upon thoſe diſputes, which relate particularly to the intereſts of Great Britain, as upon the chief points that remain undetermined in the general plan of peace; that theſe are not to be looked upon as new demands on France, moſt of them are points which have been already frequently diſcuſſed, and all of them are the moſt reaſonable compoſitions which the Queen thinks it poſſible to make, for accommodating the preſent differences, and reſtoring the public tranquillity.

That if his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty ſhall think fit to agree in theſe particulars with the Queen, your Grace has directions to give immediate notice to the Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, to whom a courier will be diſpatched from hence to-morrow morning, with the powers neceſſary for them to aſſume the character of Ambaſſadors, and to ſign the peace.

That theſe Miniſters, upon the receipt of this advice from your Grace, are directed to declare in the Congreſs, that the intereſts of Great Britain and France are entirely ſettled, and that they ſhall proceed immediately to ſign her Majeſty's peace.

That theſe Miniſters are likewiſe directed, in purſuance of this declaration, as ſoon as the Miniſters of France themſelves ſhall deſire it, and as the ſeveral inſtruments can be prepared, to conclude: that it is to be hoped all the allies will finiſh at the ſame time; but that

if

if any of them ſhould not be ready, her Majeſty's miniſters are ordered nevertheleſs to proceed to ſign, leaving the general plan, as it is underſtood at Utrecht, and with the alterations and additions now propoſed by her Majeſty, as the ſcheme which ſuch parties may, within a term to be ſettled between her Majeſty's miniſters and thoſe of France, come in upon.

That this proceeding, on the Queen's part, is a full accompliſhment of that promiſe which her Majeſty formerly made, and has frequently repeated to the Moſt Chriſtian King; but, that the declaration which always accompanied this promiſe of her Majeſty, muſt not be forgot; which declaration was—That if her allies did ſincerely enter into diſpoſitions for peace, and, conſequently if the delay of concluding did not ariſe from them, her Majeſty would think herſelf obliged to keep other meaſures with them, and not to ſign without them; that therefore, if his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty ſhall not conſent to the propoſitions which your Grace is ordered by her Majeſty to make, as well in her own behalf, as in behalf of her allies, the Queen will, in purſuance of the eſtabliſhed principle which is above-mentioned, continue her good offices for reſtoring the public tranquillity, but will be obliged to defer the execution of her treaty with France, until his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty and the other powers concerned in the treaty of peace, ſhall come nearer to an agreement.

That upon theſe conſiderations, and with theſe views, the Queen has again prorogued her Parliament till Tueſday the third of March, O.S.; that the manner of her ſpeaking to the two Houſes, and indeed to the whole world, will depend on the reſolution which the Moſt Chriſtian King ſhall take on this occaſion. That in one caſe, her Majeſty will ſpeak of her own peace as concluded, and of the terms of peace for her allies, as agreed between herſelf and the King, and therefore propoſe to her people no other proviſions for the ſervice of the year,

than what are neceſſary for the maintenance of the common guards by ſea and land, in time of peace. That in the other caſe, her Majeſty will be obliged to ſpeak of the event of the negociation as ſtill uncertain, and therefore to demand ſuch ſupplies of her Parliament as may be neceſſary for carrying on the war, if unhappily the negociation of peace ſhould not ſucceed. That it is now in the King's power, at once to make his peace with the Queen, and to ſecure the ſucceſs of the general treaty. That her Majeſty has, through the whole courſe of this negociation, done all that was poſſible to calm the minds, and to moderate the expectation of the ſeveral allies. That the general plan of peace, with the propoſitions now made, comes very near to that plan which his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty thought fit to offer. In a word, that the Queen can reduce the demands of her allies no lower than they will, according to this ſcheme, ſtand, and that ſhe cannot doubt the compliance of the King, ſince ſhe is perſuaded his Majeſty will maintain to the end of the negociation, the ſame ſpirit of facility, the ſame candour, with which it was begun.

The two papers incloſed (No. 1, No. 2) contain her Majeſty's reſolutions upon the diſputed articles of her own peace, and of the general plan.

(1) *Memorial of the Queen's laſt reſolutions upon the differences in the treaty of peace and commerce, between her Majeſty and the Moſt Chriſtian King.*

TREATY OF PEACE.

"THE difficulty about the title of Electreſs to the Princeſs Sophia, her Majeſty is determined ſhall not ſtop the ſigning of the treaty; it may be reaſonable that France give upon this occaſion a declaration, that the King is ready to acknowledge the Electorate in the Houſe of Brunſwic, as ſoon as the Elector of Hanover ſhall come into a peace with France and Spain. Her Majeſty inſiſts upon the ſpecification of the diſtance of thirty leagues on the ſouth-eaſt coaſt of Nova Scotia. Her Majeſty perſiſts in refuſing that liberty which is demanded for the ſubjects of France, to ſell their *bona immobilia* in the places yielded or reſtored to the Queen.

"If his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty inſiſts to have a clauſe inſerted, by virtue whereof, in the places either yielded or reſtored to the Queen, any inhabitant, being a papiſt, who ſhall chooſe to continue her Majeſty's ſubject, may have the free uſe of his religion, the ſaid clauſe will be admitted with words to this effect, *as far as is conſiſtent with the laws and policy of Great Britain.*"

TREATY OF COMMERCE.

"THE Queen admits theſe words *in quacunque occaſione*, or ſuch other words as may prevent it being thought, that a public burying-place ſhould be ſet aſide for every nation.

"The

plan. Theſe are what I refer to above, and what your Grace will pleaſe to offer, as the Queen's *ultamatum*, to the French.

Her

" The preceding paragraph which is the ſecond in the paper (6), tranſmitted by the Duke of Shrewſbury, in his letter of February 22d, her Majeſty thinks ought to remain; and being reciprocal, can have no reaſonable objection made to it on the part of France: if the French think othewiſe, the Queen will not ſtop the concluſion of the treaty for this difference. If any other matters are left in the treaty of commerce undetermined, they ſhall be ſpecifically referred to the Commiſſioners appointed by the ſaid treaty to meet after the peace."

" (2) *Memorial of the differences relating to the Intereſts of the Allies, and others, with the Queen's ultimate reſolution upon each head.*

" *Propoſals of France.*

" PORTUGAL.

" The Moſt Chriſtian King offers to change the proviſional treaty concluded between France and Portugal, into a definitive one, reſerving the free navigation of the river of the Amazons, which is to be in common between the two nations.

" *The Queen's Propoſals.*

" Portugal, for the ſake of peace, and in deference to the Queen, agreeing to depart from the barrier which by their treaty they are entitled to expect, her Majeſty is obliged to inſiſt, in their behalf, that both France and Spain ſhall, in the ſtrongeſt and cleareſt terms, engage not to moleſt the dominions of Portugal, or give them any trouble under any pretence whatſoever, either in Europe, the Weſt-Indies, or in any other part of the world. That in the provincial treaty (a copy whereof is herewith ſent, and a ſtate of the caſe as it has been given in by the Miniſter of Portugal here) ſhall be wholly removed; that to this end the Queen inſiſts that France ſhall depart from all pretenſions to a freedom of navigation in the river of the Amazons; that the north as well as the ſouth ſide of the river ſhall, for the future, be underſtood to belong to the Portugueſe; that they ſhall enter again into the poſſeſſion of the country which, by the above-mentioned treaty, they were obliged to abandon; that the ſaid treaty ſhall be made definitive, in ſuch manner, that the right of country, thereby kept in ſuſpence, ſhall be entirely given up, and remain for ever to the Crown of Portugal; and that the boundaries ſhall be ſo clearly and diſtinctly ſettled, in a treaty between France and Portugal, that no room may be left for any farther diſpute upon this head: to all this the Queen promiſes to give her guaranty.

" ELECTOR OF BAVARIA.

" The 7th of December laſt, the Earl of Strafford informed the States-General, by the Queen's command, that the Moſt Chriſtian King made preſſing inſtances in favour of his ally, the Elector of Bavaria; that what the King pretended to demand for him was, that the ſaid Elector ſhould keep the poſſeſſion of Luxembourg, Namur, and Charleroi, being ſubject to the terms of the barrier, until he ſhould be re-eſtabliſhed in the electorate of Bavaria, and be put in the rank and dignity of ninth Elector; that, beſides this, his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty propoſed that the kingdom of Sardinia ſhould be given to the ſaid Elector, that by the title of King the diſhonour of

" ELECTOR OF BAVARIA.

The propoſition, as then made, on the part of France, by the Earl of Strafford, in behalf of the Elector of Bavaria, the Queen entirely agrees to; and, as a farther compliance with the demands of France for that Prince, her Majeſty likewiſe offers to conſent that the Elector ſhall continue to retain the ſovereignty of Luxembourg, until he has a juſt ſatisfaction made him on account of his pretenſions in reſpect to the infraction of the treaty of Ilmerſheim. But the Queen underſtands the matter thus: that the Elector is not to be judge of his own ſatisfaction; that ſome arbitration or other is to be appointed, to determine the ſame as ſoon as poſſible, and her-

Her Majeſty thinks it impoſſible, that the King can have any difficulty in agreeing to thoſe points, whereon ſhe inſiſts as to her own intereſts.

of being degraded to the ninth electorate might be effaced.

" The French likewiſe demand for the ſaid Elector, at preſent, that, after he is even reſtored to Bavaria, he ſhall retain the ſovereignty of Luxembourg, till he ſhall have received an entire compenſation for the thirteen millions of florins formerly paid for the Upper Palatinate, and ſatisfaction for his other demands, ariſing from inobſervation of the treaty made between the late Emperor Joſeph and the Electreſs of Bavaria, at Ilmerſheim, near Landau.

her Majeſty offers to be one of the arbitrators; and that in this caſe alſo, Luxemburg, as well as the other places to be given up by the Elector, is to be ſubject to the terms of the barrier, and to be garriſoned from the moment his peace is ſigned, in ſuch manner as ſhall be agreed among the allies.

" This is the ultimatum which the Queen propoſes in reſpect to the Elector of Bavaria; but as other expedients have been mentioned in the courſe of the negociation, her Majeſty, to facilitate the accommodation of this matter, is willing to agree to either of the following propoſals, provided the parties concerned accept of one of them:

1. That the Elector of Bavaria ſhall give up Nieuport, Charleroi, Namur, Luxembourg, and all that he is in poſſeſſion of, at preſent, to the Emperor; that France ſhall agree to add to the barrier of the empire, either by accepting the propoſition of making the river Soor the boundary between Alſatia and the empire, or by cloſing in with the offer made by Count Sinzendorf, a copy whereof goes herewith. On the other ſide, in conſideration of theſe conceſſions, the Emperor ſhall conſent immediately to reſtore the Elector of Bavaria to all that he was in poſſeſſion of before the war, that is, both to his territories and to his rank in the empire; and this to be underſtood as a full ſatisfaction to that Elector, for all demands whatſoever. But to make the Elector Palatine amends for what he will loſe by this expedient, the Emperor ſhall give him the kingdom of Sardinia. Or,

" 2. That the Elector of Bavaria ſhall be immediately reſtored, both to the poſſeſſion of all his territories in the Empire, and to his rank in the Imperial College; and that in lieu of the Upper Palatinate, the Elector Palatine ſhall have the places and countries, of which the Elector of Bavaria is rt preſent poſſeſſed; together with ſuch others as the Emperor ſhall part with on that ſide, as alſo that territory which will be yielded by France, in caſe the Soor be made the barrier of the empire; and as the Emperor will, by this propoſition, retain the kingdom of Sardinia, ſome expedient muſt be found by erecting the Elector Palatine's territory into a kingdom, or by ſome other way, to recompenſe him for the loſs of the rank of firſt Elector.

" BARRIER OF THE STATES.

France likewiſe in yielding Ipres and its Châtellany, except the bailliage of Bailleul and Poperingue.

" France excepts out of the ceſſion of the Tourneſis, Mortagne and St. Amand.

" I do not find in the papers brought over by Mr. Prior, that any mention was made of theſe two places.

" Commines, Deallemonde, Trelinghen, and Houpelines were deſired to be given with Lille, as being ſituated on the Lis, and that they would create diſputes if two powers enjoyed them, having part on one ſide and part on the other ſide of the river.

" BARRIER OF THE STATES.

" The Queen agrees that France ſhould retain St. Amand and Mortagne, provided the latter be kept purely for a communication by water between Condé and Douay; and that France be obliged at no time, and on no account to make any ſluices or fortifications there.

' As to the bailliage of Bailleul and Poperingue, her Majeſty, in her ſpeech to her Parliament declared, that the States-General ſhould have their barrier, as it was ſpecified in the preliminaries of 1709, except two or three places at moſt, in which number Ipres is not contained; as therefore the ſaid preliminaries do ſpecify, that France ſhall deliver up to the States, Ipres and its châtellany, with the dependancy thereof, which are reckoned to be Baillieul or Belle, Warneton, Commines,

tereſts. There are but two which deſerve to have a paragraph beſtowed upon them, and they are in the 12th and in the 14th articles of the treaty of peace. We perſuade ourſelves that Monſieur de Torcy's argument upon the firſt of theſe, makes directly againſt him, and for us; ſince they agree not to fiſh upon the coaſt of Acadie, nor upon the bank, it can do them no hurt to have the boundary fixed at thirty leagues; and ſure, my Lord, your naming a determinate diſtance, is much leſs likely to create new diſputes, than a general ſtipulation. The clauſe of the *bona immobilia*, in the 14th article, her Majeſty never heard of, till the French counter-project was tranſmitted, about the end of laſt December; and ſhe never agreed to that pretenſion of ſelling the immoveables in St. Chriſtopher and Acadie, upon the diſtinction of places yielded, and places reſtored; but in debating of this matter, it was ſaid by her order, to ſhow the abſurdity of this demand, that the French would have more reaſon to expect ſuch a privilege in Newfoundland, where they did not demand it, than in St. Chriſtopher's and Acadie, where they did demand it; and from hence, I obſerve, in the paper ſent me by your Grace, and marked (No. 3), that Monſieur de Torcy would ſuppoſe, that this privilege was to be allowed to them in St. Chriſtopher's, Acadia, and Newfoundland; which ſurely, if not at any time very fair, and when there is ſo much reaſon on all articles to ſhun delay, not very wiſe. Upon the whole matter, I wiſh the French may as eaſily conſent to the papers marked (2) as I dare ſay they will to that marked (1). I believe that whenever it ſhall be conſidered, how

Commines, Warwyck, Poperingue, and whatſoever elſe depends on thoſe places (the town and châtellany of Caſſel, remaining to the Moſt Chriſtian King) her Majeſty does think, that only the town and Chatellany of Caſſel, are to be excepted out of the ceſſion of Ipres and its dependences, and that the bailliage of Bailleul and Poperingue are not to be yielded to the States-General by France, as dependencies of Ipres; this her Majeſty does propoſe as her deciſion in this caſe. But if France ſhall agree to all the other conditions, as well concerning the intereſt of the allies, as thoſe of Great Britain in particular; in ſuch caſe, if it were argued very preſſingly, the Queen would conſent that the French ſhould retain the bailliage of Bailleul, and that the States ſhould have Poperingue."

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far the demands of the allies are, by her Majeſty's interpoſition, reduced from what was formerly aſked, and from what France itſelf would have willingly granted; the ſcheme of peace as it will ſtand, when theſe propoſitions made by the Queen, ſhall be accepted, muſt be thought ſuch a bargain, as no ſide can have reaſon to complain of, and I beg your Grace's leave to make ſome obervations on the principal heads. The States-General have hitherto inſiſted on Condé, in addition to the barrier offered them, on the four ſpecies, and on all the dependances belonging to Ipres and Tournay now diſputed. Their demand of Condé, the Queen conſents ſhould be dropped; the four ſpecies ſhe has ſo far given up in her own caſe, as to refer the diſcuſſion of them to commiſſioners, and ſhe expects that the States ſhould do the ſame. Of the dependances which are ſtill controverted, two, *viz.* St. Amand and Mortagne, for the latter of which, the French have the pretence of conveniency; the Queen is willing to oblige the Dutch to yield. The other two, *viz.* Bailleul and Poperingue, which are neither paſſes nor fortreſſes, and in the yielding whereof nothing is concerned, but a little more or little leſs revenue, the Queen is deſirous to preſerve for the States, though your Grace has a power of departing from the former, rather than not conclude.

Surely, my Lord, upon a fair computation, the ſum total of the conceſſions made to France, will balance that of the conceſſions made by France, in this part of the plan which relates to Holland. Upon the head of Bavaria, the French would do well to conſider what diſadvantage their ſtiffneſs, as to the barrier of the Empire, throws all arguments under, which are made uſe of in behalf of this Elector. The propoſition which my Lord Strafford made for him, ſome time ago, and which her Majeſty thought the French intended to acquieſce in, is not without its difficulties; yet even that appears to them not ſufficient for their ally, and they have been trying by all arts of negociation to

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get more for him; though it might be expected that the Queen ſhould think herſelf under no obligation, ſince the French Miniſters did not at firſt accept what ſhe offered in their maſter's name, yet her Majeſty is ſtill willing to ſtand to that propoſal, ſoftened and improved to the Elector's advantage, as your Grace finds in the memorial that accompanies this letter; and the ſingle queſtion ſeems to be, whether France will be contented to accept what, without the Queen's aſſiſtance, they could never have hoped to obtain for the Elector; or whether they will defer their peace with the Queen, and expoſe the general treaty to new dangers, in order to play ſuch a trick as indirectly to endeavour to acquire Luxemburg, which they have in their general offers plainly yielded? for this is, without diſpute, the meaning of all their late management. I have reaſon to believe from the accounts that have come to my hands, of what has paſſed at Utrecht, that the demand made for Portugal will go very hardly down at the French court, and yet ſurely there was nothing more reaſonable for France to conſent to than what the Queen propoſes. Portugal was entitled to demand a conſiderable barrier, and whatever contempt the French Miniſters may think fit to treat the Portugueſe with, yet they ought to pay reſpect to this pretenſion; and ſince it was become her Majeſty's pretenſion, by the engagement ſhe entered into when ſhe made the treaty of 1703, this barrier is at once given up, and in lieu thereof a promiſſory ſecurity only is demanded of France and Spain. Now ſince the Portugueſe do conſent to accept of this ſecurity, in lieu of that which they had ſtipulated for themſelves, and ſince the Queen's honour is concerned, not to oblige them to part with one, without making the other effectual to them; it is to be conſidered, that in Europe no attempt can be made upon this nation, which the crown of Great Britain will not be almoſt as much at hand to oppoſe, as France or Spain can be to carry it on; but in Brazil the caſe is not the ſame. The French have there

ſlided themſelves into the neighbourhood of the Portugueſe, they are every day ſtarting new pretenſions, and making new encroachments upon them; the Queen is at a diſtance, and thoſe feeble ill-governed colonies may be overrun, before the news of their being attacked will arrive in London. Nothing, therefore, can be more juſt, than for the Queen to expect that, in conſideration of what ſhe yields, for that expreſſion may be properly uſed, in Europe, France ſhould yield ſomething in America. Farther, the navigation of the river of the Amazons cannot but give umbrage even to the Spaniard. Whoever is informed of the freſheſt accounts which have come from thoſe parts, and of the lateſt diſcoveries which have been made, will eaſily perceive what reaſons the Spaniards muſt have for their apprehenſions. In ſhort, my Lord, the ſource of the river muſt belong to the Spaniard, the mouth of it to the Portugueſe, and neither the French nor the Engliſh, nor any other nation, muſt have an avenue open into that country. I am almoſt aſhamed to have uſed ſo many words upon this ſubject, when I conſider that I am arguing againſt an advantage purely national; when I am not proving that the French ought to give up what they have had an actual poſſeſſion of, but am barely deſiring them to forego that, which they never enjoyed but in idea.

Your Grace may, perhaps, wonder why there is nothing ſaid in the paper (2) concerning the intereſts of the Duke of Savoy; but the reaſon of it is, becauſe your Grace muſt, without giving up the point, defer the determining it. The Queen obſerves, that in your letter of the 16th, you are pleaſed to ſay, that France will yield what has been aſked for the Duke of Savoy to him, upon condition that his Royal Highneſs will yield to them *la Vallée de Barcelonette avec les douze communautés dont elle eſt compoſée*. By the letter from the Count de Maffei to me which comes incloſed, your Grace will perceive, that the French Miniſters at Utrecht have made the propoſition in another manner, and

have ſaid that *avec les terres propoſées de la comté de Nice, le Roi demandoit la Vallée de Barcelonette.* We take it for granted, that the inſtructions of the French Plenipotentiaries were agreeable to what your Grace has writ, but theſe gentlemen it ſeems, had a mind *de faire les bons valets*; and it is no wonder we do not know the true ſenſe of the Miniſters of Savoy, upon this offer of the French court, ſince the King's Miniſters have not truly ſtated the offer to the Miniſters of his Royal Highneſs. It is therefore the Queen's pleaſure, that your Grace ſhould open this matter to Monſieur de Torcy; and ſhould let him know, that for this reaſon, the Queen has not ſpoke ſo peremptorily on this head, as ſhe has done upon others; but that her Majeſty will inſiſt to the laſt to obtain for his Royal Highneſs, that which is neceſſary for his ſecurity, he giving the equivalent he has offered, or ſomething equal to that equivalent, for it. Whether the Valley of Barcelonette be that ſomething or no, the Queen cannot yet determine; and upon this occaſion, my Lord, I cannot forbear making two reflections on the conduct which the French court has held, and the arguments which their Miniſters have uſed in debating this part of the general treaty. Their firſt reaſon for refuſing to the Duke of Savoy the addition which he demanded to his barrier was, that this addition could not be looked upon as really and eſſentially neceſſary to his ſecurity; ſoon after, they offered, as an expedient for compromiſing the difficulty, that the King ſhould keep the villages demanded by the Duke, but oblige himſelf not to canton, at any time, troops in them. I appeal to your Grace, whether thoſe who propoſed this expedient did not thereby very fully give up the arguments they had before inſiſted upon? Another objection made on the part of France to this demand was, that the villages in queſtion, were part of the ancient domain of the crown, which it ſeems his Majeſty can upon no account whatſoever reſolve to yield, and yet this point of

honour is to be got over, and this domain is to be parted with, provided the Valley of Barcelonette be given in exchange.

By what I have ſaid, your Grace perceives that the Queen continues ſtill of the ſame opinion, with reſpect to this article of the Duke of Savoy's demands, although ſhe cannot ſpeak ſo poſitively of it as ſhe would do, becauſe the falſe propoſition made by the French Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht has hindered her from knowing the ſenſe of the Savoy Miniſters upon the true one. But I muſt open another matter to your Grace, which renders her Majeſty leſs zealous in this cauſe, than otherwiſe ſhe would be, or at leaſt makes her think it proper to give ſome appearance of coolneſs. When Monſieur de Mellarede was in England, he aſked her Majeſty's leave to form a body of Iriſh troops, which the Duke of Savoy propoſed to take into his pay, for the garriſoning of Sicily. The Queen did not think fit to agree to this propoſal; but, in lieu thereof, Monſieur de Mellarede was told, that her Majeſty would furniſh his maſter with five old regiments of foot, to be kept in Sicily; that in conſideration of this, he ſhould be obliged, in caſe Minorca was attacked, to ſend land ſuccours from Sicily thither, as her Majeſty would be obliged, in caſe Sicily was attacked, to ſend a ſquadron of her ſhips from Minorca thither. It is true, indeed, that Monſieur de Mellarede deſired a project of a convention for the entertainment of theſe troops, which was not at that time given him, and which has been very lately ſent over; but the overture having been made to him, her Majeſty is a good deal ſhocked to find, that his Royal Highneſs has not thought it worth his while to take any the leaſt notice thereof.

I have now gone through all which I had in command from her Majeſty to your Grace, as to the manner of winding up this great negociation. I ſhall conclude this ſubject by ſaying that to you, which I am ſure you will ſay to the Miniſters of France, that the King has

now

now the whole before him, that the fear of poſterior demands, the old excuſe for unſatisfactory anſwers, can no longer be given, and we had better run the riſk of thoſe confuſions, which muſt follow the breaking the negociation, or even the protracting it, than ſubmit to receive the law in ſo arbitrary a manner as we muſt do, if France refuſes to ſubſcribe to the plan now chalked out by the Queen. When I conſider the clearneſs with which your Grace will expreſs theſe orders, the arguments with which you will back them, and the ſpirit with which, I am ſure, you will ſupport the whole, I confeſs I cannot have very much concern about the event.

I ſhall not fail to diſpatch the powers and inſtructions above-mentioned to the Queen's Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewſbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, February 17th, 1712, O.S.

I SHOULD, by this courier, particularly anſwer the private letters which your Grace has honoured me with, and ſend you at the ſame time, the informations you want, in order more cloſely to examine Aſſurini, the father and the ſon; but it is ſo extremely late, and I am ſo thoroughly ſpent, that I muſt beg your Grace to excuſe me, till the next opportunity of writing.

The Queen is not yet able to walk, from the weakneſs which the gout leaves in her limbs; otherwiſe, God be praiſed! ſhe is in a good ſtate of health: we have ſome advices as if ——— * was not in the ſame, the truth of which your Grace muſt be better informed of.

* Meaning, probably, Louis XIV.

I am

I am leſs and leſs ſatisfied every day with the Duke d'Aumont; all the Abbé Gaultier can do to ſet him right is done, but he is too conceited ever to mend. I find the Spaniſh Miniſter very much ſhocked at ſome part of his behaviour. Your Grace eaſily believes I take no pains to heal this breach.

I am, &c.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, Feb. 18th, 1712-13.

I DISPATCH this meſſenger, in hopes he may be able to overtake Phillips, who went away early this morning with the Earl of Dartmouth's letters, and a voluminous packet from me, to your Grace.

I made, it ſeems, ſome ſmall miſtake, in taking the Queen's ſenſe, as to that article which relates to the Elector of Bavaria, in the paper 2d. Your Grace will therefore pleaſe to uſe that which I have now the honour to tranſmit to you *, inſtead of the other. In this paper, the

"* *Memorial of the Queen's ultimate reſolution upon the principal points which remain unſettled in the general plan of Peace.*

"PORTUGAL.

"The King of Portugal being determined to ſign his peace with France and Spain at the ſame time with the Queen, her Majeſty thinks herſelf obliged to inſiſt, in behalf of that Crown, that France and Spain ſhall, in the ſtrongeſt and cleareſt terms, engage not to moleſt the Dominions of Portugal, or to give them any trouble, under any pretence whatſoever, either in Europe, the Weſt-Indies, or any other part of the world; that the proviſional treaty made by France with that Crown, a copy of which treaty, together with a ſtate of this caſe as it has been given in by the Miniſter of Portugal reſiding here, accompanies this memorial, ſhall not only be made definitive as the French miniſters have offered, but alſo effectually to ſecure the Portugueſe in the quiet poſſeſſion of their ſettlements. That France ſhall expreſsly depart from all pretenſions to a freedom of navigation in the River of the Amazons. That the north ſhore as well as the ſouth ſhore of this River, ſhall for the future be underſtood to belong to the Portugueſe. That the Portugueſe ſhall again take poſſeſſion of, and for the future quietly enjoy, without any diſturbance on the part of France, that country which, by the abovementioned proviſional treaty, they were obliged to evacuate. That the boundaries ſhall be by treaty clearly and diſtinctly fixed, between the poſſeſſions of the Portugueſe thus eſtabliſhed, and ſuch ſettlement or ſettlements as the French may actually have on the coaſt, ſo as to leave no room for future diſpute on this head. That in conſideration of thoſe articles, and of the ſatisfaction which it will be propoſed to the Spaniſh miniſter that the King of Spain ſhall give to the Crown of Portugal, not only

the miſtake I mention is not only rectified, but ſome other points are more fully and clearly expreſſed.

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only with reſpect to the colony of the Sacrament, but alſo with reſpect to the demands made by the Portugueſe, and formerly allowed by the Spaniards, on account of the aſſiento; the King of Portugal ſhall depart from all pretenſions to any place or places as a barrier, or otherwiſe on the continent of Spain. That the guaranty of the Queen ſhall be accepted of to all conditions of peace between France, Spain, and Portugal."

"ELECTOR OF BAVARIA.

"*Propoſition made by the Earl of Strafford, the 7th of December, 1712, N.S.*	"That the propoſition made by the Earl of Strafford at the Hague, on the 7th of December laſt, N.S. be accepted, in the terms in which it was then made, and which are inſerted in the margin of this paper, except as to the alteration of them contained in the following paragraph, which is the utmoſt length her Majeſty can go, in compliance with the Moſt Chriſtian King upon this head.
"The Moſt Chriſtian King demanded in favour of his ally the Elector of Bavaria, that the ſaid Elector ſhould keep poſſeſſion of Luxemburg, Namur, and Charleroi, being ſubject to the terms of the Barrier, until he ſhould be re-eſtabliſhed in the Electorate of Bavaria, excluſive of the Upper Palatinate, and be put in the rank and dignity of 9th Elector. Beſides, his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty propoſed, that the kingdom of Sardinia ſhould be given to the ſaid Elector, that by the title of King, the diſhonour of being degraded to the 9th Electorate might be effaced.	
"Addition to the ſecond propoſition made by the Earl of Strafford, in favour of the Elector of Bavaria.	"That whereas by the propoſition made by the Earl of Strafford, the ſaid Elector is to keep poſſeſſion of Luxemburg, Namur, and Charleroi, ſubject to the terms of the barrier, no longer than till he is re-eſtabliſhed in the electorate of Bavaria, excluſive of the Upper Palatinate, till he have the kingdom of Sardinia yielded to him, and till he be put in the rank and dignity of ninth Elector; it is now offered farther in favour of this Elector, that he ſhall retain the ſovereignty of Luxemburg, until ſatisfaction has been made him for his pretenſions in reſpect to the infraction of the treaty of Ilmerſheim, provided this Elector do not pretend to be judge of his own ſatisfaction, but accept ſome arbitration or other, and her Majeſty offers to be one of the arbitrators; and provided there be no farther diſpute about the garriſoning of this place, of Namur, or of Charleroi, the ſecurity of which important places is one of the principal objects of the peace, this is the *ultimatum* which the Queen propoſes in reſpect to the Elector of Bavaria; but if the inſiſting upon this ſhould produce on the part of the Emperor, any other propoſition, equally or more agreeable to the Elector, her Majeſty will come into the ſame."

"STATES-GENERAL.

"For accommodating the differences which remain between the Miniſters of France, and thoſe of Holland, her Majeſty propoſes,

"That the States-General ſhall refer, as her Majeſty has on her part, already done, the conſideration of the four excepted ſpecies to commiſſaries who may meet after the peace.

"That St. Amand and Mortagne remain to France, provided the latter be kept purely for a communication by water between Condé and Douay; and that France be obliged at no time, and on no account, to make any ſluices or fortifications there. That the bailliage of Bailleul and Poperingue do remain to the Dutch.

"This her Majeſty propoſes as her deciſion in the diſputes between Holland and France: but if France ſhall agree to the other conditions, and ſhow an inclination at once to finiſh; in ſuch caſe,

The Queen was glad to find in your Grace's letter of the 16th, that orders have been ſo readily given for recalling the licences bargained for by the Count de Bergheyck, for ſix French ſhips to ſail to the South Sea. The French Miniſters gave a good turn to their own conduct in this affair, and I will be far from robbing them of the applauſe they merit; but to your Grace I muſt ſay, that the refuſal which the King of Spain declared he would give to the confirmation of the Count de Bergheyck's contract, was ſome ingredient in promoting the reſolution which the Court of France took.

If I was not afraid your Grace would think me tedious, I would, upon this occaſion, ſay, that the French cannot eſtabliſh, at this time, a wiſer principle, than that of curing the world of the jealouſy which has been entertained of the deſigns of France, to let themſelves in, not only to the Spaniſh trade, but the Spaniſh dominions too, in the Weſt Indies; and from hence a very good argument may be drawn, why the propoſition, made by her Majeſty in the behalf of Portugal, ſhould, without heſitation, be accepted. Some encroachments which have been already made by the French, in the iſland of St. Domingo, and the deſign which they appear to have of eſtabliſhing and ſtrengthening themſelves in their colony of Louiſa, which is not far from the kingdom of Mexico, give apprehenſions of their future undertakings in North America. If they inſiſt to drive the Portugueſe from the north ſhore of the river of the Amazons, and to confirm to themſelves a right of navigation in that river, the world will be as much alarmed at what they may hereafter attempt in South America.

caſe, if it may be of uſe to ſave time, and conclude the whole ſyſtem of a general peace, her Majeſty will conſent, and the Duke of Shrewſbury may agree, that the bailliage of Bailleul remain to France, and that Poperingue go along with Ipres.

"Theſe propoſals being accepted by his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, they are to be added to the articles which have been already adjuſted at Utrecht, and the whole is to be looked upon as the general plan, which her Majeſty and the Moſt Chriſtian King are agreed in, which the Miniſters of Great Britain and France ſhall jointly offer to the allies, and upon the aſſurance of making which good, her Majeſty will forthwith ſign her treaty of peace."

The French tried, in Mr. Prior's caſe, one of thoſe little artifices, which they cannot abandon, which always fix a certain degree of infamy upon thoſe who uſe them, and which ſeldom or never procure any advantage, equal to the conſtant diſadvantage of a bad character. But as I look upon this matter to be now entirely over, there needs no more to be ſaid about it; and I am ſorry it gave Mr. Prior ſo much concern.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Verſailles, le 7me Février, 1713, N.S.

JE brûle, avec beaucoup de plaiſir, une lettre que j'eus l'honneur de vous écrire avant hier. Je vous exhortois à finir une négociation qui languiſſoit: mais, grâces à Dieu! vous l'avez terminée, & quoiqu'il ait falu céder à la véhémence de Matthieu, je ne lui reprocherai point une victoire qui établit enfin la paix entre nous. Faites qu'elle ſoit promptement ſignée, pour impoſer ſilence aux mauvais raiſonneurs, dont le nombre eſt très-grand en tout pays.

La Reine fera perdre tout crédit à ceux qui ſont en Hollande, quand elle voudra s'expliquer, comme il lui convient, & préſcrire à ſes alliés un terme fort court pour ſigner avec elle, ſi ſa Majeſté Britannique veut encore les attendre; mais en vérité le tems eſt bien précieux, & quand on eſt d'accord de part & d'autre, il me ſemble qu'il ne faut pas retarder les bonnes affaires par la conſidération de ceux qui n'ont cherché qu'à les traverſer.

Quoique la paix réuniſſe les deux nations, je vous aſſure, my Lord, qu'elle ne peut augmenter le deſir que j'ai de mériter la continuation de

l'honneur de votre amité & de vous faire connoître en troutes occaſions que je ſuis, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce 17me Février, V.S. 1712-13.

JE crois, Monſieur, que la conjoncture dans laquelle nous nous trouvons, & l'importance des affaires dont il s'agit, me ſerviront d'excuſe, ſi je vous importune d'une de mes lettres, & ſi j'ajoute de moi-même quelque choſe à ce que Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury vous dira de la part de la Reine.

Je regarde la paix entre la Grande Bretagne & la France comme réglée, puiſqu'il eſt certain que les différents qui reſtent indécis dans le 14me article ſur les *bona immobilia*, & dans le 12me ſur les *triginta* lieues, n'en arrêteront pas la concluſion: ſi donc les alliés de la Reine perſiſtaſſent à ne vouloir point traiter, ou ſi en traitant ils continuaſſent à inſiſter ſur les demandes qu'ils ont juſques-ici faits, nous n'aurions qu'à ſigner la paix particulière, en leur laiſſant un terme pour accepter le plan du Roi, ſelon ce qui a été autrefois promis par la Reine. Mais, Monſieur, vous voyez qu'ils filent doux, & que la différence qu'il y a entre ce que vos Miniſtres propoſent, & ce que les autres demandent, n'eſt pas aſſez conſidérable pour pouvoir nous autoriſer de dire qu'ils reſtent encore dans leur tort, qu'ils ſont opiniâtres, & qu'il faut les abandonner.

La Reine a différé, le plus long-tems qu'il lui a été poſſible, de préſcrire à ſes alliés, elle a ſouhaité même de donner le champ libre aux Miniſtres de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne, pour gagner par la négociation ſur ces eſprits, que les événemens de la Campagne paſſée ont rendu plus dociles. Mais la ſaiſon s'avance, peut-être, la regarderions-

nous

nous déjà comme trop avancée, ſi nous ne comptions pas que vous cherchez à faire une paix raiſonnable, & non pas à prendre quelque petit avantage pour la continuation de la guerre. Il faut donc ou prévenir l'ouverture de la Campagne, par la concluſion de la paix, ou ſe préparer dès à cette heure à la traiter les armes à la main; le premier vaut infiniment mieux que le dernier; pour cet effet, je viens d'envoyer à my Lord de Shrewſbury les derniers ſentimens de ſa Majeſté ſur les principaux articles qui reſtent à être réglés à Utrecht. Si le Roi trouve à propos de concourir avec la Reine, ces points, & ceux qui ont été déjà accordés par les Plénipotentiaires de France, formeront le plan général que la Reine & le Roi conjointement offreront aux parties intéreſſées.

Si les alliés acceptent ce plan, la paix générale eſt aſſurée; s'ils ne l'acceptent pas, celle de la Reine ſera ſignée, d'abord que vos Miniſtres eux-mêmes le ſouhaiteront. Je ne puis pas me réſoudre à ſuppoſer ſeulement que ce plan puiſſe être rejeté, puiſqu'il contient toutes les facilités que la Reine eſt en état de donner, & puiſqu'elle ſe trouveroit dans ce cas obligée de parler à ſon Parlement du ſuccès de la négociation comme incertain. Vous voyez, Monſieur, combien cela donneroit de l'avantage aux mal-intentionnés par-tout, combien cela cauſeroit de l'embarras ici, & du déſordre dans le reſte de l'Europe.

Vous aurez préſentement le plan entier de la paix tout à la fois devant les yeux, vous n'aurez point de demandes ultérieures à craindre, & le Roi peut dans un moment finir ce qu'il conſumeroit des mois, pour ne pas dire des années, à régler au Congrès.

Notre Parlement ne s'aſſemblera que le 3me du mois prochain, V.S. ainſi nous avons tout le tems qu'il nous faut pour recevoir vos réponſes, & pour prendre nos meſures, qui ne dépendent que de vos réſolutions, car la Reine eſt la maîtreſſe de donner tel pli qu'elle voudra aux affaires chez nous.

Peut-être que tous les avis que vous recevrez ne ſeront point conformes à ce que j'ai l'honneur de vous mander ; je crois pourtant être aſſez au fait de ce qui ſe paſſe ici, & pouvoir vous répondre de la conduite de notre Cour, & du génie de notre peuple. Ce qu'il y a de certain, c'eſt que je vous écris naturellement ce que je ſais, & ce que je penſe, que je ne vous ai jamais trompé, & que je ne vous tromperai jamais, & qu'on ne peut être avec une eſtime plus parfaite que je le ſuis, Monſieur, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Reine me mandent qu'ils ont commencé à parler des intérêts du Duc de St. Pierre, & qu'ils eſpèrent lui pouvoir rendre ſervice.

To the Lord Privy Seal.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, February 20th, 1712, O.S.

THE Queen has been ſo good as to name my brother to be her Secretary at Utrecht, and I cannot diſpatch him thither without begging your Lordſhip's protection to him. As I am truly ſenſible of the advantage which he will have by being under your Lordſhip's direction, ſo I deſire you to believe that I ſhall ever be truly thankful for all the favour and countenance which your Lordſhip ſhall pleaſe to ſhow him.

I have the honour to be, with the greateſt reſpect,

My Lord, your's, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, February 20th, 1712-13.

THIS letter will be delivered to your Lordſhip by my brother *, whom the Queen has been pleaſed to name for her Secretary at Utrecht, on Mr. Harriſon's death. As he may probably enough inherit ſome honour and more eſtate, and I ſhould be glad to ſee him fitted to ſerve his country, and to be uſeful in his generation, I know no better occaſion to fire him with great examples, and to improve him by opportunities of acquiring knowledge. It is therefore with the greateſt pleaſure that I ſend him to the Congreſs, and that I promiſe myſelf your Lordſhip's patronage to him. You will have two brothers in the liſt of your ſervants, my Lord, and I deſire the others as they grow up may be placed on the ſame roll.

The letter of the States-General to her Majeſty, certainly anſwers the deſign which your Lordſhip intended by procuring it; it gives the cleareſt teſtimonies of ſubmiſſion to, and confidence in her Majeſty, and therefore would effectually ſilence the clamours of thoſe, who might pretend to deplore the hard fate of the Dutch, and to inſinuate their diſſatisfaction. But, my Lord, if France will be tractable, we muſt now cloſe, and ceaſe any longer to conſider who is in, and who out of humour. Thoſe who wiſh the peace, and that is, your Lordſhip knows, a vaſt majority here, have been diſſatisfied, that the treaty was not more precipitated; but we hope it will appear to the cooler reflections even of theſe people, that her Majeſty has purſued a plan worthy of herſelf in ſtaying to the laſt moment for her obſtinate ungrateful

* George St. John.

allies;

allies; and in ſigning reſolutely, without any regard to entreaties or repreſentations, when the laſt moment comes.

I believe the Duke of Marlborough * may be meddling in politics. It is hard for ſo old a gameſter to leave off playing. It puts me in mind of a man I knew, who when he had loſt all his money, and was out of the party, becauſe no one would play with him upon tick, went home, and ſhuffled the cards, and tryed tricks upon them alone all the reſt of the night. We have information here in general, that he intrigues with emiſſaries of the Dutch; one intelligence pretends that he has met the Emperor incognito, a few leagues from Vienna, this indeed is very chimerical.

I have already made the Marquis de Monteleon ſound his own court in Count Paſſionei's favour; in a poſt or two, I will do myſelf the honour to anſwer the letter which his Holineſs's Miniſter has writ me.

I am ever, my dear Lord,

Your Slave.

To the Earl of Strafford.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 4th, 1712-13.

I DO not reckon that I deſerve your Lordſhip's thanks, for giving you the earlieſt account which I could of the matter which you was pleaſed to write to me upon, concerning a promotion in your regiment; it was the leaſt I owed to one, for whom I profeſs ſo true a value and ſo ſincere a friendſhip.

Before this letter can poſſibly reach your Lordſhip's hands, you will

* The Duke retired to the Continent in November, 1712, and the Ducheſs joined him at Aix-la-Chapelle, in February, 1713.

have

have known, that the Queen has been pleaſed, as a mark of her approbation of my poor ſervices, to appoint my brother to ſucceed Mr. Harriſon. His youth, his inexperience in his buſineſs, would have made me doubtful whether I ought to let him accept of ſo great an honour; but that conſideration which determined me, after my dependance on your Lordſhip's goodneſs to forgive, inſtruct, and countenance him, was the knowledge I had of Mr. Ayerſt's capacity, and the opinion I entertained, that he would be willing to aſſiſt George at Utrecht, whilſt I endeavour to be ſerviceable to him here. If at that time I had imagined Mr. Ayerſt's views could lead him to think of being the Queen's Secretary, perhaps I ſhould have altered mine.

What application my Lord Privy Seal has made for his Secretary, I do not know, I ſuppoſe none, ſince he has not made it through me. I am very ſenſible of the reſpect due to my Lord Privy Seal, as a Prelate, a Miniſter of State, and a man of real probity and worth; but I hardly believe he is ſo little ſenſible of what is due to me, as not to allow me *voix en chapitre*, on ſuch an occaſion.

Upon what you mention in a former letter, I took occaſion to tell the Queen, that as your expence in Holland was exorbitant, and as I knew you was obliged, in ſome inſtances, to contract for terms of ſeveral months, it would certainly be of great uſe to you to be informed in time, whether ſhe intended, after the concluſion of the peace, to employ you abroad or to call you home? Her Majeſty's anſwer was, that would call you home as ſoon as the negociation was finiſhed, ſince your ſervice would be of uſe to her here, and ſince ſhe ſhould not have occaſion for ſo high a character in Holland.

The fear of the Queen's catching cold before the gout has entirely ſpent itſelf, has been the only reaſon of putting the Parliament again off, though the ſpeculative here find many other ways of accounting for this ſtep. On Tueſday we ſhall ſit, and I believe I may venture

to prophecy, that the diſſatisfied will be able to create no diſturbance; we impatiently expect to hear that you have ſigned.

I am, &c.

To the Lord Privy Seal.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 4th, 1712-13.

I AM very glad of this occaſion to renew thoſe ſincere profeſſions which I have formerly made, of being your Lordſhip's ſervant. In this character I would not let ſlip any opportunity of doing ſuch little ſervices as my power extends to, for thoſe who have the honour to belong to your Lordſhip. I had thoughts indeed of introducing Mr. Wood into the Conſulſhip of Flanders, where Logan* muſt by no means continue, and ſhall keep this door open until your Lordſhip has thought farther of the matter, or until ſome better proviſion is made for your nephew, and a better, I queſtion not, will be made. Sure I am, the ſervices which your Lordſhip had performed for her Majeſty, deſerve that recommendations ſhould not only find ingreſſion, but always ſucceed. I will be Mr. Wood's Solicitor, and I hope to give you a ſatisfactory account of my proceedings. In the mean time, I entreat your Lordſhip to think of ſome proper perſon for the conſulſhip of Oſtend, and lay your commands upon me.

What relates to your Lordſhip's own affairs, I am very ſenſibly concerned at. If the great debt which the Earl of Godolphin left upon the civil liſt, obliges her Majeſty to be backward in paying her ſervants, we who are at home can find ſome reſource, and make one ſhift or

* John Logan, Conſul to Oſtend and Bruges.

other to go on, but, indeed, thoſe who ſerve abroad, and in poſts ſo eminent and expenſive, as that where your Lordſhip is, ought never to be in arrear.

I hope to be able by the next poſt to let your Lordſhip know, that my Lord Treaſurer has taken care to redreſs this great grievance; I have already applied to him, and ſhall to-morrow have the opportunity of doing ſo again.

I am, &c.

From Mr. Prior.

My Lord,

Paris, February 28th, 1712, N.S.

I DID not know that La Vigne was going for England, till he calls as he paſſes to aſk if we have any letters. I hope by what my Lord Duke ſent you on Wedneſday, the difficulties which our Plenipotentiaries from Utrecht mentioned, and thoſe made by the court here, may be adjuſted: I ſuppoſe the articles of commerce have been duly weighed in England; as I have looked them over, and corrected a copy which I had of them, by one which I had from Monſieur de Torcy, my own being very imperfect, and conſiderable changes made ſince. I take leave to obſerve to you, that in the 27th article, *Intra ſpatium ſex ſeptimarum intra* the Naze in Norwegia, we have again loſt our Britiſh Seas; by which, *ſcilicet intra Maria Britannica*, though may be the boundary, as to the capture, is not ſo exactly fixed, our ſovereignty is preſerved, and this is more neceſſary in the treaty of commerce, becauſe in that of peace, the ſuſpenſion of arms has ſuperſeded the uſual article, in which the Britiſh Seas are mentioned; this has happened, I believe, from our having at Utrecht, followed the ſcheme of a treaty of

commerce between Holland and France, in which, from the Naze to the Soundings, is always the firſt boundary.

Upon peruſal of ſome other articles, you may poſſibly find ſome other cautions taken; that the Admiralty uſed to object to article 21, our ſhips to have paſſports, t o be renewed every year, nay, every voyage; a ſpecification of the merchandiſe, a declaration of the perſon to whom the goods belong; does not this ſubject us to too nice a ſearch upon what we have always called our own ſeas, and to minute chicaneries in the Admiralty Court? And ſo the 22d and 23rd.

Niſi certis indiciis ſuſpectæ fuerint.

I leave this, my Lord, to your conſideration, if there be any thing in what I write, it may very eaſily be remedied, there being nothing to be propoſed but what is already yielded, as to the ſeas, and only ſome things to be retrenched from the minutias in ſome other articles, which France will eaſily agree.

In all caſes, this is only Matthew to Henry.

Pray get me a word of anſwer from my Lord Treaſurer, as to what I have writ to you about my own affairs, and if I am to be at the renunciation; of which we wrote ſo much by laſt, that I had not time to tell you in my own hand, that I am ever,

My Lord, &c.

M. Prior.

From

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Verſailles, the 7th March, 1713.

AFTER what the Duke of Shrewſbury has writ to my Lord Bolingbroke, there remains nothing but a word from Matt to Henry, and after the *pax ſit* with France, I have only to add *& æterna amicitia* with you.

Entries, coaches, horſes, liveries, follow very ſoon; pray agree with Lord Treaſurer, as I have already hinted to you, what I am to do, and wherewithal I am to do it; and believe that without any regard to my private ſatisfaction or ambition, I am ready to conform myſelf to what ſhall be thought moſt agreable to your directions.

You need no apology for not writing to me; when I ſee a quire of your diſpatching, it is very eaſy to imagine you are weary, and to wiſh myſelf near you, that I might any way eaſe you.

I do not queſtion but what we ſend you to-night, will make you forget your labours paſt, and I moſt heartily congratulate you upon that peace, which you have ſo eminently procured and directed, of which hereafter in verſe.

Your's, my dear Lord, ever,

M. PRIOR.

March 8th.

As the Dukes of Berry and Orleans renounce in perſon to Spain, in the Parliament of Paris, they are to do the ſame by proxy in the other Parliaments of this kingdom: who is to ſee it performed on her Majeſty's part, or is any body? Do you know that the King of Pruſſia is dead?

To Mr. Prior.

DEAR MATT,

Whitehall, March 3d, 1712-13.

YOU are very good to conſider the ſituation of your friend, I muſt not be very happy when I want time to write to you, and to viſit Denny.

I have drudged on in the beſt manner I have been able, through very intricate as well as voluminous buſineſs; and I have been comforted with the hopes of having more aſſiſtance when I have leſs to do; but enough of this.

The peace is ſurely now brought to a concluſion, and if Monſieur de Torcy has writ to the Miniſters of his maſter at Utrecht, as I have done to thoſe of the Queen, we ſhall ſoon receive the inſtruments ſigned.

I did not, you may be ſure, omit to read very diſtinctly to the Queen that paragraph of my Lord Duke's letter wherein he does that juſtice to your merit which I know you deſerve; the Queen was very ſenſible of your ſervices, and is really I think diſpoſed to give the proofs you could wiſh for, of this diſpoſition. My Lord Treaſurer I have attacked on the ſame ſubject; and if I had been able to hunt him to-day, I ſhould have had, as I believe, ſomething to have ſaid to you from him, but I have been tied to my deſk till three in the morning, at which hour I am writing to you; I hope before the end of the week to ſend you an account that may be to your ſatisfaction.

Pray make my moſt humble ſervices acceptable to my Lady Ducheſs, and intercede with my Lord Duke to forgive the length of my letters to him.

You have been a kind friend to Monſieur Calandrini, whoſe circumſtances are very unhappy, and who really deſerves better fortune. I

beg of you to continue the ſame good-nature. I believe he has had a late ſtroke, which puts him ſtill more in need of the good offices of thoſe who are able to ſerve him.

I doubt I am in debt to Madame Feriole and her Brother the Abbé; I will ſoon diſcharge it; in the mean time I am not forgetful of their commands.

I know you will make my compliments of courſe where they are due, and I therefore ſay nothing particular to you upon that ſubject.

What think you of a medal, where Britain gives an olive-branch to Time, and this motto inſcribed, *Longum diffundet in ævum*; or of this, Britain is ſeated on a throne, arms, trophies, &c. at her feet, the motto *Compoſitis venerantur armis* *.

Adieu, my good friend; I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

Could you in an eaſy hour drop a word to my Lord Duke on behalf of Doctor Carter, Provoſt of Oriel College in Oxford? The man has a good deal of merit as a ſcholar and a commonwealth's man, he is ambitious to be one of the Queen's chaplains, and I believe it would be right to make him ſo.

* This motto was adopted, but the deſign of the medal was changed. The editor has one of thoſe which he believes were preſented by her Majeſty's order to the Members of both Houſes of Parliament. On one ſide is the effigy of the Queen, with the uſual inſcription, Anna D. G. &c. and on the other Britannia holding an olive-branch in the right hand and her ſpear in the left; in the back ground, a plough at work, a man ſowing, and the ſea with ſhips under ſail. Round it this motto, *Compoſitis venerantur armis*. In the exergue, 1713.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

Verſailles, March 8th, 1713. N.S.

MY LORD,

IN obedience to her Majeſty's orders, received in your Lordſhip's letters of the 17th and 18th of February, O.S. I have acted, as the memorial * and the copy of the letter † written thereupon to Utrecht,

* " *Pour finir le Traité de Paix & de Commerce entre la Grande Bretagne & la France.*

" LA Reine conſent que le mot *Electricum* ſoit omis, pourvu que ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne donne une déclaration, qu'elle eſt prête à reconnoître la maiſon d'Hanover pour Electorale lorſque cet Electeur fera ſa paix avec la France & l'Eſpagne. La Reine croit que pour prévenir toutes les différences qui pourroient naître ſur l'étendue & la liberté de pêcher ſur la côte d'Acadie, il ſera néceſſaire qu'une diſtance préciſe ſoit nommée, c'eſt pourquoi ſa Majeſté inſiſte ſur la ſpécification de 30 lieues. Sa Majeſté perſiſte auſſi à refuſer aux François la liberté de vendre leurs *bona immobilia* dans les Pays cédés & reſtitués.

" A la conſidération de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne, la Reine conſent que dans les pays cédés ou reſtitués, les habitans Catholiques Romains, qui demeureront ſous le gouvernement de la Reine, jouiront du libre exerciſe de leur Religion, autant que les lois & conſtitutions du royaume (de la Grande Bretagne) le permettent.

" COMMERCE. *Article* 5.

" *In re autem religionis :* La Reine s'entend que cette liberté ſoit réciproque de part & d'autre. Sa Majeſté la laiſſe au choix du Roi, ou de le faire inſérer ou de l'omettre. *In quacunque occaſione :* Sa Majeſté conſent que les autres points du commerce, qui reſtent encore indécis, ſeront examinés par des Commiſſaires qui ſeront nommés de part & d'autre.

" PORTUGAL.

" Comme la Reine eſt bien aſſurée de la part du Roi de Portugal, que ce Prince eſt dans le deſſein de ſigner en même-tems que ſa Majeſté, pourvu qu'il ait une ſatisfaction entière ſur les points ſuivans, elle inſiſte, que la France & l'Eſpagne s'engageront à ne point inquiéter les domaines, territoires, ni les ſujets du Roi de Portugal, ſoit en Europe ou dans les Indes, ſous quelque prétexte qu'il puiſſe être. Que les traités faits, par proviſion, avec le Roi de Portugal ſeront convertis en traité définitif, dans lequel ſera auſſi ſtipulé & accordé, que pour mieux aſſurer aux Portugais la paiſible jouiſſance de leurs colonies en Amérique, les François déſiſteront de toute prétenſion à la liberté de navigation ſur la rivière des Amazons, & que le rivage de cette rivière, tant du côté ſeptentrional que méridional, appartiendra déſormais aux Portugais. Comme auſſi ils rentreront dans la poſſeſſion des pays qu'ils étoient obligés de quitter en vertu du traité proviſionel, pour en jouir dès-à-préſent, ſans y être en aucune manière inquiétés de la part des François. Que les limites entre les poſſeſſions des Portugais établies, comme il eſt ci-deſſus énoncé, & celles que les François pourroient avoir ſur les mêmes côtes, ſeront réglées & déterminées de telle manière que de prévenir tout ſujet de diſpute qui y puiſſe naître à l'avenir. En conſidération de ces articles accordés, & de la ſatisfaction que le Roi de Portugal prétend de la part de l'Eſpagne, à l'égard de la colonie du Sacrament, & de ce qui reſte à liquider entre ces deux couronnes ſur quelques dettes de l'aſſiento, dont on ne diſconvient pas, ſa Majeſté Portugaiſe déſiſtera de toute prétenſion à l'égard de la barrière ſur quelques places qui ſoient ſur le continent de l'Eſpagne. Et la Reine deviendra garande des conditions de paix entre la France, l'Eſpagne, & le Portugal.

" L'ELECTEUR

Utrecht, which I ſend you incloſed, will particularly explain; in which I hope I have had the good fortune to ſucceed ſo entirely, as that

"L'Electeur de Baviere.

" Comme la Reine perſiſte toujours dans la réſolution d'effectuer tout ce qui dépend d'elle, en faveur de l'Electeur de Bavière, ſelon ce qu'elle a promis de faire en conſidération de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne, outre les avantages dont ce Prince doit jouir, en vertu de la propoſition faite le 7me Décembre, 1712, par le Comte de Strafford; la Reine offre de nouveau, que le dit Electeur jouira de la ſouveraineté de Luxembourg juſqu'à ce qu'il aura ſatisfaction ſur ſes prétenſions à l'égard du traité d'Ilmerſheim, ſous ces deux conditions: (1.) Que la déciſion en ſoit remiſe au jugement des arbitres déſintéreſſés, & la Reine ſouhaitant que cette affaire ſoit terminée au plutôt & à l'amiable, ſe content d'être du nombre des arbitres. (2.) Que Luxembourg ſera obligé de recevoir garniſon comme Charleroi & Namur. Voici tout ce que la Reine eſt en état de propoſer en faveur de cet Electeur, mais s'il arrive dans le cours de la négociation, que l'Empereur propoſe quelque choſe de plus agréable à l'Electeur, ſa Majeſté y donnera très volontiers la main.

" Pour les Etats-Generaux.

" Comme la Reine a déjà conſenti de renvoyer la diſcuſſion des quatre eſpèces à la détermination des Commiſſaires après la paix, ſa Majeſté entend que les Etats en feront de même: les places de St. Amand & Mortagne demeureront à la France, à condition qu'à cette dernière on ne faſſe point d'écluſe ni de fortification; & comme la Reine s'eſt évertuée à ſatisfaire aux demandes de la France, du côté de Tournay, elle s'aſſure que de celui d'Ypres, on donnera une ſatisfaction mutuelle aux Etats-Généraux. Voici tout ce qui reſte pour achever le plan général de la paix; & comme la Reine a fait tout ce qu'elle a pu, pour mener ce grand ouvrage à ſa dernière perfection, elle ne doute point que le Roi Très Chrétien n'en agiſſe de même. C'eſt avec beaucoup de ſatisfaction que la Reine s'apperçoit que ce peu qui eſt encore indécis, ne contient rien d'eſſentiel; elle ſe perſuade que le Roi Très Chrétien ſera auſſi dans le même ſentiment, & qu'il prendra une réſolution conforme aux ſouhaits de la Reine. La prudence conſommée du Roi prévoit facilement que de la conſéquence de cette réſolution dépendent ces deux grandes alternatives, ou que la Reine d'une côté ſera contrainte après tous ſes ſoins pour accélérer la paix, d'en parler à ſon parlement comme d'un événement incertain, & de demander à ſes ſujets les levées ſuffiſantes pour ſoutenir la guerre, en cas que les négociations de la paix ne fortiſſent leur effet deſiré; ou de l'autre côté, qu'elle ſera en pouvoir de déclarer à ſes peuples qu'elle ſe trouve en état de les ſoulager des dépenſes néceſſaires de la guerre, & qu'elle va ſigner la paix avec ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne. On pourra ajouter que la Reine eſt ſi fortement perſuadée de la facilité que ces propoſitions trouveront auprès de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne, qu'elle a déjà donné ſes ordres particuliers à ſes Plénipotentiaires à Utrecht de ſigner la paix immédiatement après que le Duc de Shrewſbury les aura averti que tout ſera ajuſté ici de la manière propoſée.

" A Verſailles, le 7me Mars, 1713. (Endorſed) *Réglement des points indécis, accordé.*

† *Copy of the Duke of Shrewſbury's letter to the Lords Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, incloſed to Lord Bolingbroke.*

" My Lords,

" Verſailles, March 7th, 1713.

" Upon the directions which I received from the Queen of the 17th and 18th of February, O.S. by which her Majeſty explained her ultimate reſolution on the points which remained unſettled, in the general plan of peace, as well in relation to her own intereſts, as to thoſe of her allies, I have conferred with Monſieur de Torcy, and for the help of his memory, as well as to avoid any miſtake which may happen in a matter of ſo great importance, I gave him a paper, containing every point in which her Majeſty demanded ſatisfaction; a copy of which paper I ſend to your Excellencies incloſed; it is with great ſatisfaction that I go on to tell your Excellencies that Monſieur de Torcy having laid the whole before the King his maſter, his Majeſty deliberated upon it this morning in council; and has entirely agreed to every particular thereof, upon which I give you the earlieſt

that no obſtructions can remain to the concluding and ſigning the peace.

I muſt obſerve to your lordſhip that while the French ſubmit the article of the *immobilia* to her Majeſty's determination, they are ſo fully convinced of the juſtice of their pretenſions, that they ſeem not to doubt, but that her Majeſty's equity will redreſs them before the article comes to be ratified; I ſend you the incloſed papers ‡ which I receive

notice, as I am adviſed from Lord Bolingbroke to do; that in conforming to thoſe orders and powers, which he tells me your Excellencies have received from him, you may without farther delay conclude and ſign the treaties, as well of peace as of commerce, between her Majeſty and that Crown, as I preſume the Miniſters of Portugal, Holland, and Savoy will do at the ſame time; beſides theſe your Excellencies will likewiſe invite the Plenipotentiaries of all the Princes engaged in the alliance to ſign their reſpective treaties, acquainting them with her Majeſty's determination; and that ſhe has taken a proviſional care that ſuch of them as may not be ready to ſign at the ſame time as your Excellencies, ſhall have a term allowed them till the 1ſt of June, N.S. for their coming in upon the plan as already agreed to at Utrecht, and the contents of the incloſed paper.

" There are two points of which the King ſpoke immediately to me, thinking, as he expreſſed it, that juſtice was not done him upon them; one, in regard to the *bona immobilia* in our own treaty, the other as to the navigation of the River of Amazons, which concerns Portugal. I do not trouble your Excellencies with the arguments of this Court upon theſe heads, becauſe you have had enough of them from the French Plenipotentiaries, but upon the whole I am glad to tell you, that rather than that the peace ſhould be longer delayed, this King conſents they ſhall be ſubmitted to the Queen; reſerving to himſelf the liberty of laying before her Majeſty the juſtice of theſe pretenſions, that in caſe ſhe may think fit to recede in any part from what he eſteems rigorous in theſe two articles, they may be explained or altered between the ſigning and the ratifying of the peace, which being now brought ſo near to its concluſion gives me a new occaſion of congratulating your Excellencies upon it.

" I cannot conclude this ſubject without mentioning what has been juſt recommended to me, by order of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, in behalf of the Prince of Epinoy, as mentioned in the incloſed memorial, of which you will hear more particularly from the French Plenepotentiaries the juſtice of his cauſe, and your Excellencies' willingneſs to aſſiſt a great family oppreſſed in this long proceſs, will be ſufficient arguments for your uſing your kind interpoſition in their behalf: this having made no difficulty, as to all the acts mentioned in your Excellencies' letter of the 1ſt inſtant, Monſieur de Torcy tells me that he, by this courier, ſends orders to the French Plenipotentiaries to ſign them, and I ſhall immediately diſpatch a meſſenger with the packet from Count Sinzendorf to Mareſchal Staremberg, in a letter to Sir John Jennings, together with the atteſted copies of the two letters from the Earl of Dartmouth to that Admiral. I am, &c.

" SHREWSBURY."

‡ *Mémoire de Monſieur de Torcy, touchant les* bona immobilia.

" IL eſt ordinaire dans les traités, même dans les capitulations de places, de laiſſer aux habitans des lieux qui changent de maîtres la liberté de ſortir, de tranſporter ailleurs leurs effets, de diſpoſer de leurs biens, & de les vendre, ſoit meubles ſoit immeubles; le traité de paix que le Roi fait avec la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, ayant pour but principal d'établir une union parfaite entre les deux nations, ne doit pas contenir à l'égard des François des clauſes plus rigoureuſes que celles des traités ordinaires.

" On

ceive from Monſieur de Torcy on that head, and I ſuppoſe you will have the ſame from the Duke d'Aumont.

I hope I have made a right uſe of the power I had in relation to Bailleul *, when I tell you, that the yielding it proved the greateſt means towards the facilitating the whole, except the argument I uſed according to your direction, that, in caſe they complied in the manner

" On veut cependent rterancher aux habitans des lieux, que le Roi laiſſe à l'Angleterre, la même faculté qui eſt accordée dans tous les traités, & dont on peut rapporter une preuve particulière en citant l'article 11me du traité de Breda; le Roi d'Angleterre, Charles Second, cédant l'Acadie à la France, ſe réſerve, pour les habitans du pays qui voudroient en ſortir, la liberté entière de vendre & de diſpoſer, comme il leur plaîroit, de tous leurs biens, meubles & immeubles, & généralement de tous leurs effets. Le Roi ne prétend aujourd'hui que le réciproque de ce qu'il a fait en 1667, à l'égard de l'Angleterre, & la propoſition de ſa Majeſté eſt d'autant plus juſte qu'il paroît contraire à ſon équité auſſi-bien qu'à celle de la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, de tranſiger du bien des particuliers, & d'en priver ſans cauſe ceux qui en ſont poſſeſſeurs légitimes. Cette vérité eſt ſi conſtante, que Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne à Utrecht avoient toujours fait une diſtinction des lieux qui ſeroient cédés, & de ceux qui ſeroient reſtitués par la France; ils avoient compris l'île de St. Chriſtophe & l'Acadie ſous le nom de lieux cédés & par cette raiſon il convenoient que dans l'une & dans l'autre les François auroient la liberté de vendre leurs immeubles. Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne refuſoient cette même liberté dans les lieux reſtitués, ſavoir la Baie d'Hudſon & l'île de Terreneuve.

" Le Roi conſentoit a laiſſer aux Commiſſaires, qui ſeront nommés après le paix, l'autorité de rétablir, dans les biens immeubles de la Baie d'Hudſon, les Anglois, qui feroient voir, par des titres valables qu'ils en étoient ou propriétiaires, ou héritiers de ceux qui avoient poſſédé ces biens. Quant à ceux de l'Iſle de Terreneuve, ſa Majeſté prétendoit que la ville de Plaiſance ayant été bâtie par les François, les maiſons de cette ville, & les terres défrichées autour étoient des immeubles, qui n'avoient jamais apartenu aux Anglois, par conſéquent que les habitans devoient avoir une entière liberté d'en diſpoſer. Cette faculté réſervée dans tous les traités ne fait aucun préjudice à la ſouveraineté des Princes à qui les lieux ſont cédés, elle aſſure ſeulement l'intérêt des particuliers; & comme il eſt de la juſtice de laiſſer à ceux qui n'ont commis aucun crime la libre diſpoſition de leurs biens, le Roi, perſuadé de l'équité de la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, remet cette queſtion à la déciſion de cette Princeſſe. Sa Majeſté ne veut pas cependant qu'une pareille difficulté arrête la concluſion de la paix; elle ordonne à ſes Plénipotentiaires de la ſigner, & de laiſſer ſubſiſter l'article 14 tel qu'il eſt dreſſé par Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne, comptant que ſi la Reine juge à propos de le changer & de le faire dreſſer conformément à l'article 11 du traité de Breda, ce changement ſe fera lorſque le traité ſera ratifié.

" *Article* 11 *du Traité de Breda.*

" Si quelques-uns des habitans du pays appellé l'Acadie préfèrent de ſe ſoumettre pour l'avenir à la domination du Roi d'Angleterre, ils auront la liberté d'en ſortir pendant l'eſpace d'un an, à compter du jour que la reſtitution de ce pays ſera faite, & de vendre & aliéner leurs fonds, champs & terres, eſclaves & en général tous leurs biens meubles & immeubles, ou en diſpoſer autrement à leur diſcretion & volonté, & ceux qui auront contracté avec eux ſeront tenus & obligés, par l'autorité du ſéréniſſime Roi Très Chrétienne, d'accomplir & d'exécuter leurs pactions & conventions; que s'ils aiment mieux emporter avec eux, leur argent comptant, meubles, uſtenſils, & emmener leurs eſclaves, & généralement tous leurs biens meubles, ils le pourront faire entièrement ſans aucun empêchement ou trouble."

* Les Etats-Généraux ayant demandé Poperingue & Bailleul, comme dépendans & appartenens à Ipres, le Duc de Shrewſbury ſelon les ordres de la Reine, & le Marquis de Torcy par ceux de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne, ſont d'accord que Bailleul demeure à la France, & que Poperingue ſoit cédé en faveur des Hollandois.

they have done, our Plenipotentiaries had orders without farther delay to ſign, and her Majeſty would open the Parliament, by telling them, ſhe had made peace with France.

The Marquis de Torcy received yeſterday the news of the King of Pruſſia being dead.

I am, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

P.S. Mr. Gilligan writ ſome time ſince to Mr. Prior, concerning a ſum to be adjuſted and paid, in lieu of the remaining number of Negroes, which the French Company think they have a right to tranſport for two years to come, and by virtue of their aſſiento contract with the Spaniards; of this Mr. Prior has writ again to Mr. Gilligan: and we deſire particularly to know, if it be underſtood, that we ſhall pay this *dédommagement*, as the ſum may be agreed to, and accordingly I ſhall ſpeak of it more diſtinctly to the Miniſters here.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.*

MY LORD,

Verſailles, March 8th, 1713, O.S.

I HOPE the laſt commands I have had from the Queen by your Lordſhip have been obeyed with ſucceſs, and that it is now in her Majeſty's power to declare her peace is made; you cannot conceive the difficulties we have had to get all your American articles agreed to without alteration; the King told me he was uſed very hardly in that of the *bona immobilia*, that he was confident the Queen and her Miniſters were not rightly apprized of the caſe; but, however, he would

 ſubmit

* Private.

ſubmit it entirely to her Majeſty, lay the ſtate of the caſe before her, and depend upon her juſtice.

I own freely I have never been able to argue this point well, though I have gained it, becauſe either I do not underſtand it, or if I do, I incline to think we are in the wrong, the conſtant practice according to my obſervation being againſt us; but I will ſay no more upon this ſubject, for, right or wrong, it was ſubmitted to her Majeſty, which is all that can be aſked.

I cannot conclude this letter without telling your Lordſhip that Mr. Prior has been to the laſt degree uſeful to me, and ſerviceable to her Majeſty in all this negociation: I wiſh you would write and encourage him. When I make my entry, it will look ſtrange if he have not ſome ſort of handſome equipage to appear at the ſame time; as he lives, he ſpends a great deal of money, and yet makes no ſhow, for want of a fund to buy ſomething at firſt that is creditable; pray put Lord Treaſurer in mind of him, and pardon this unneceſſary additional trouble from, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

P.S. I muſt not omit ſaying, that I think this King's health is very good for a man of his age, and the Dauphin grows ſtronger every day

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To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, March 3d, 1713.

THE meſſenger whom your Grace diſpatched, and who arrived here on Saturday laſt, returns with moſt ſincere congratulations upon that happy ſucceſs which you have had, and which might reaſonably be expected when the management of the negociation was in the Duke of Shrewſbury's hands.

By one of the Queen's meſſengers, who arrived yeſterday from Utrecht, I find that my brother got thither very early on Saturday morning; ſo that my Lords the Plenipotentiaries did probably receive their full powers and ultimate inſtructions, as ſoon as they could know from your Grace, that they were to uſe one, and put the other in execution.

Her Majeſty thought fit, as ſoon as your Grace's letters of the 8th arrived, to order me to renew her commands to the Biſhop of Briſtol and to the Earl of Strafford; and within three hours after I received your Grace's packet, I diſpatched another courier to Holland, with the cleareſt and moſt preremptory ſignifications of the Queen's pleaſure, which I am able to draw. Thus therefore, my Lord, one part of that promiſe which your Grace judges to have proved the greateſt means towards facilitating the whole, has been, as far as lies in the Queen's power, accompliſhed, and her Plenipotentiaries have had orders, without farther delay, to ſign. The other part, that her Majeſty would open the Parliament by telling them ſhe had made peace with France, would have been performed this day, could the Queen have reſolved to have opened the Seſſion by commiſſion *, or had there not been too much danger of a relapſe if ſhe had ventured in perſon to Weſtminſter. Her ſtate of health is, God be praiſed! extremely good; but as the gout has not entirely ſpent itſelf, the leaſt cold might have expoſed her Majeſty to an illneſs, and her long confinement to a very warm apartment, made her apprehenſive of this conſequence. This, my Lord, is the true and only reaſon why ſhe determined yeſterday to put off the Parliament till this day ſeven-night, though when I told you 1001, 294, 267, 394, 482, 816, 381, ſo to-day 454 ſeemed too wiſe to believe me.

* Bolingbroke was of opinion that the Parliament ſhould ſit; they had prorogued it ſeveral times, and were not then certain that the peace would be ſigned in time for the meeting; therefore they were no forwarder than at the firſt prorogation, and many were the grumblers, and great the ſuſpenſe of the nation.

The

The Queen has begun to take the air, ſhe will continue to do ſo, whenever the weather is in the leaſt favourable, and I make no doubt but on the 10th ſhe will, without any riſk to her health, carry the glad tidings of peace to her two Houſes.

The Duke d'Aumont has juſt put a pretty long memorial into my hands, which conſiſts of three parts; communications of the points agreed to, whereon nothing need be ſaid to your Grace; arguments againſt our demand of the *bona immobilia*, and repreſentations concerning the dangerous ſituation of the King of Sweden's affairs: on the firſt of theſe two laſt articles, I have little to ſay, no anſwer being yet returned to me, from thoſe to whom the conſideration of this matter is by her Majeſty referred. In general, I may tell your Grace, and your Grace may tell Monſieur de Torcy, that the Queen will readily do whatſoever ſhall appear equitable and juſt towards the ſoftening of this demand.

The laſt propoſition is a matter of very great intricacy; the Queen ſees very well what the drift 492, 670, 303, 508, 347, 282, 320, is in preſſing her ſo warmly upon it; and their zeal on this occaſion will inſpire none to her Majeſty; but there are motives of another nature which will occur to your Grace, and which there is no need of my ſuggeſting, to induce her Majeſty to exert herſelf in another manner than ſhe has hitherto been able to do in the affairs of the North.

I am at this time employed, with the aſſiſtance of Mr. Whitworth, in forming a memorial, wherein the true ſtate of the Queen's engagements, and of the ſteps taken by the parties in the Northern war, will appear. The former of theſe were entered into moſtly to ſerve the turns of the laſt war, and are accordingly inconſiſtent with, and even repugnant to each other. But I hope ſome obſervations which are to be made upon theſe, and the whole tenour of the latter, will enable us to ſhow that the Queen is at full liberty to act as a common friend in northern affairs. Your Grace, however, ſees, that till this ſtate is formed, and

till

till her Majeſty's reſolutions thereupon are taken, no particular meaſure can be declared for. We might otherwiſe engage ourſelves anew into ſuch a labyrinth as we are endeavouring to get out of.

In the mean time, it may not be improper for your Grace to ſay to Monſieur de Cronſtroom *, who will certainly ſolicit you upon this head, and even to the Miniſters of France, that her Majeſty has given orders for a very ſtrong ſquadron to be got ready, which will, in a ſhort time, be able to act in the Baltic. The incloſed papers † which I have

* The Swediſh Miniſter, at Paris.

† *Obſervations on the ſixth and thirty-ſecond articles of the Aſſiento Contract.*

" Sixth article.—As the ſaid Company have reaſon to fear, that in caſe of war they may be interrupted or impeded in the importation of the ſaid negroes, and that they expoſe themſelves to an evident danger of loſing their ſhips and loading, his Catholic Majeſty declares, that during the continuance of the war, the ſaid Company ſhall not be obliged to import more than 3000 negroes, pieces of India, each year; and his Majeſty leaving the ſaid Company a latitude of importing the remaining 1800, to make the complement 4800, they have a liberty to import yearly in the following years; and if, by any other accident, they cannot furniſh the ſaid number of 3000 negroes yearly, they ſhall likewiſe have liberty to import them in the following years, making good the numbers they wanted to complete; but the ſaid Company ſhall, nevertheleſs, be obliged to pay to his Catholic Majeſty the ſum of 300,000 livres Tournois for the duties of the ſaid 3000 negroes, pieces of India, every ſix months, or half-yearly payments, for each year, during the continuance of the war, whether they furniſh them or not; and if they do furniſh above the ſaid 3000 negroes, pieces of India, they ſhall pay the duties for the overplus in the manner above explained."

And in the margin of the ſaid ſixth article is written—" I add, that if, during the ten years the treaty is to continue, the war ſhall not ceaſe, and that it ſhall hinder the ſaid Company to furniſh the ſaid quantity of negroes they are obliged to by the preſent treaty, they ſhall, notwithſtanding, be obliged to pay entirely the duties to his Majeſty; but they ſhall have the liberty to fulfil their contract during the three years that his Majeſty gives them to regulate and determine their accounts, and to withdraw all the effects that belong to them, without their being obliged to pay any other duties whatſoever."

" Thirty-ſecond article.—The ſaid treaty being finiſhed and accompliſhed, his Catholic Majeſty grants to the ſaid Company the term of three years, for ſettling all their accounts, withdrawing their effects from the ſaid Indies, and rendering to his ſaid Majeſty his final account; and during the ſaid three years, the ſaid Company, their Agents, and Commiſſaries, ſhall enjoy the ſame privileges and franchiſes which are granted them during the term of the preſent treaty, for the free entrance of their veſſels into all the ports of America, and to withdraw their effects without their being liable to any charge or reſtriction whatſoever."

" By the 32d article.—The French Guinea Company have three years given them after the expiration of their contract, for ſettling all their accounts, withdrawing their effects, and rendering to his Catholic Majeſty his final account; with free liberty of entering the ports of America, for withdrawing their effects, which does not give them a power of introducing negroes, during theſe three years.

" But in regard of the reſervation added to the ſixth article, they are equitably entitled to import, during the three years, what was wanting of the numbers of 4800 negroes yearly.

" Yet in adjuſting this, many difficulties will lie on the French Company.

ſt,

I have the honour to tranſmit to your Grace, contain the beſt, and indeed the only anſwer which I can give to the difficulty Mr. Gilligan wrote ſome time ſince to Mr. Prior about. Your Grace will therefore pleaſe to let Mr. Prior forward the ſame to this gentleman, and to ſpeak accordingly to the Miniſters where you are. I take it for granted the French do not think of ſailing any more to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, under pretence of fetching the effects away which belong to the Guinea Company, ſince we agreed long ago to take off this difficulty by purchaſing them at a reaſonable valuation.

Your Grace will receive herewith the copy ‡ of a diſpatch which the Plenipotentiaries

" 1ſt, The deficiency of the numbers muſt appear by authentic certificates from all the ports of the Spaniſh Weſt Indies.

" 2dly, One year of the three is almoſt expired.

" 3dly, Without carrying of negroes, the ſending of ſhips to withdraw the effects only, will not defray the charge.

" It ſeems juſt to the concerned, that her Britannic Majeſty doth agree with the Kings of France and Spain, and the Guinea Company of France, that upon authentic proofs of the value of their effects abroad, and proper authorities given for recovery thereof, her Majeſty do anſwer the adjuſted value in Europe.

" In like manner, as to the deficient negroes to complete the contract, That the reaſonable profit, all charges and riſque conſidered, uſually made in the Spaniſh Weſt Indies be adjuſted and anſwered by her Majeſty; regard being had to the duties already anſwered by his Catholic Majeſty, by the Company. And the power of introducing the deficient number being transferred to her Majeſty, to avoid the claſhing and interfering of the old and new aſſiento, which otherwiſe will turn to the prejudice of both.

" I ſubmit whether it would not be of ſervice, what the Duke of Shrewſbury forwards a copy of this diſpatch to Mr. Gilligan."

‡ " My Lord,

" Aiant travaillé tous ces jours avec Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de France, pour dreſſer les articles du traité de paix à faire entre ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne & ſon Alteſſe Royale, nous avons rencontré de leur part des difficultés eſſentielles, auxquelles nous ne nous attendions pas, & n'avions aucun ſujet de nous attendre.

" 1. Ils refuſent de mettre dans le traité, que ſon Alteſſe Royale pourra prendre la poſſeſſion de Vigevinaſco, en cas qu'entre ici & la paix ſa Majeſté Impériale n'aie pas donné à ſon Alteſſe Royale la réelle poſſeſſion de l'equivalent.

" 2. Ils refuſent conſtamment de reconnoître ce droit de la Maiſon de Savoye, immédiatement après celle d'Autriche, à la ſucceſſion des états de la Monarchie d'Eſpagne, qui tomberont par cette paix en partage à l'Empereur.

" 3. Ils prétendent avec inſiſtence, que ſon Alteſſe Royale ne pourra point fortifier dans les vallées & lieux que le Roi Très Chrétien offre de donner en échange de la principauté de Barcelonette, que le Roi demande; & qu'il ſera ſeulement permis à ſon Alteſſe Royale de fortifier Exilles & Feneſtrelles, & la Vallée de Pragelas.

" Par rapport au premier point, vous ſavez, my Lord, que par les réitérées aſſurances, que ſa Majeſté la Reine a eu la bonté de faire donner à ſon Alteſſe Royale, & par la manière dont ſa Majeſté

Plenipotentiaries of the Duke of Savoy ſent me; the difficulties therein mentioned are ſuch as I ſhould hope could not retard the great work of

jeſté s'eſt toujours expliquée avec la France, les ceſſions portées par le traité de 1703, entre ſa Majeſté Impériale & ſon Alteſſe Royale doivent à la paix ſortir leur plein & entier effet, comme il eſt porté par le traité d'alliance entre la Reine & ſon Alteſſe Royale; vous ſavez qu'il n'a tenu & qu'il ne tient, qu'à l'Empereur de donner l'équivalent du Vigevinaſco d'une manière très avantageuſe pour ſes intérêts, en acceptant la propoſition du marquiſat de Final, & en remettant à ſon Alteſſe Royale.

" Vous comprenez aiſément, que les ceſſions portées par le traité de 1703, ne ſorteroient plus leur plein & entier effet à la paix, ſi après qu'entre ici & ce tems-là l'Empereur auroit refuſer toutes les propſitions à lui avantageuſes pour donner un équivalent, il n'étoit pas lié a donner Vigevinaſco même, & ſon Alteſſe Royale étant de nouveau renvoyé à un équivalent indéfini, n'auroit plus l'entière exécution de ſon traité dans le tems porté par le traité même, & la cour de Vienne viendroit à ſon but d'avoir la paix ſans exécuter le traité. Sur le ſecond point vous aurez la bonté, my Lord, de vous ſouvenir que la ſucceſſion de la maiſon de Savoye, immédiatement après celle d'Autriche, aux états de la Monarchie d'Eſpagne, qui par la prochaine paix reſteront à l'Empereur, a toujours été conſidérée par la Reine comme le point le plus eſſentiel à la juſtice dûe au traité d'alliance, que ſon Alteſſe Royale a avec ſa Majeſté, & aux précautions néceſſaires pour la durée de la paix, l'équilibre en Europe; auſſi dans ſon traité ſa Majeſté a trouvé bon de s'y engager comme pour fait propre, & dans le cours de cette négociation, elle a eu la bonté de faire aſſurer ſon Alteſſe Royale par moi, Comte Maffei, & par moi, Comte Mellarede, que dans les traités de paix ce droit de ſucceſſion ſeroit maintenu & reconnu.

" C'eſt en ſuite de ces ſentimens & aſſurances de la Reine, que moi, Comte Mellarede dans les points que j'eu l'honneur de vous remettre, my Lord, & ſous l'article des Garanties pour leſquelles dans les traités de la prochaine paix, le Roi Très Chrétien doit s'unir à ſa Majeſté, j'ai marqué la Garantie pour ce droit de ſucceſſion, & la demande fut trouvée raiſonnable par les Seigneurs du Conſeil.

" Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de France diſent, qu'ils ne peuvent pas reconnoître le teſtament de Philippe IV, qui eſt oppoſée & deſtructif de celui de Charles II. Cette difficulté eſt d'abord aplanie par l'offre, que nous faiſons de nous contenter que dans le traité de paix, il ne ſoit point parlé du dit teſtament de Philippe IV, mais ſeulement qu'il ſoit dit que la maiſon de Savoye ſuccédera immédiatement après celle d'Autriche.

" Pour ce qui regarde le troiſième point, il eſt de fait que lorſque le Roi Très Chrétien a fait propoſer à my Lord Duc de Shrewſbury, & enſuite a nous ici, l'échange de la Vallée de Barcelonette, il en a fait faire la propoſition, ſans aucune reſtriction ni condition onereuſe, comme vous ſaurez, my Lord, auſſi-bien que nous; ce ſeroit donc une nouvauté que de vouloir impoſer une telle condition, qui en bornant contre les règles naturelles l'autorité ſouveraine, ne convient point aux pays que l'on cède en ſouveraineté, ſurtout, lorſque l'on demande en échange des pays ſupérieurs en valeur, & qui n'ont point une ſupériorité limitée.

" Ajoutez, nous vous en prions, à cela, que les vallées, que ſon Alteſſe Royale demande, ſont des vallées jugées par la Reine néceſſaires, comme en effet elles le ſont, pour cette ſureté du Piémont, que le Roi Très Chrétien a promis à la Reine, & la Reine à ſon Alteſſe Royale; or la partie la plus eſſentielle de la ſureté, ſurtout vèrs une puiſſance, ſupérieure conſiſte à être en état de fortifier ſelon que les occaſions l'exigent, & par conſéquent ce n'eſt plus la même ſureté, ſi cette partie ſi eſſentielle y manque, ſur-tout s'agiſſant que les Alpes ſéparant ces vallées d'avec la France. Les fortifications qui ſont néceſſaires pour la défenſive, ne peuvent jamais ſervir pour l'offenſive, & ne ſauroient donner aucune juſte alarme. Son Alteſſe Royale ne peut pas douter de la bonté, de la juſtice, & de l'appui efficace de la Reine dans les points ſi eſſentiels, & c'eſt ce qui nous oblige, my Lord, à ſupplier très humblement ſa Majeſté par votre canal, de vouloir avoir la bonté d'envoyer ſes ordres à my Lord Duc de Shrewſbury, à Paris, & à Meſſieurs ſes Plénipotentiaires ici, afin, que les articles du traité de paix à faire entre le Roi Très Chrétien & ſon Alteſſe Royale & dans les ſuſdits points ſoient, ſans

of peace. In two of them France ſeems to have no concern at all, and in the third, no very juſt reaſon to be ſtiff. The Emperor is to give his Royal Highneſs an equivalent for the Vigevanaſco, to which he has never ſhown much inclination, and after the conduct which the Duke of Savoy has obſerved in the negociation of peace, he will probably ſhow leſs than ever, Why, therefore, ſhould France refuſe to ſtipulate, as the Queen will do, that either this equivalent ſhall be given before the peace, or that his Royal Highneſs ſhall be at liberty to take poſſeſſion of the province of Vigevanaſco itſelf. France has already conſented to the ſubſtitution of the right of the Houſe of Savoy to Spain and the Weſt Indies, after the Philippine line; this done, it is not a little odd to hear the French Miniſters object to the ſubſtitution of the ſame perſon's right to the diſmembered parts of the Spaniſh monarchy, after the Auſtrian line. Will they pay a greater compliment to an Auſtrian than a Bourbon Prince, or do their politics tend to leave no proſpect of ever reuniting the Spaniſh dominions?

When the article was under debate, ſome time ago, of allowing to the Duke of Savoy, notwithſtanding the treaty of Turin, a liberty to fortify; the King of France objected only to the exerciſe of this liberty, in the caſe of Pignerol. His Royal Highneſs acquieſced under this exception, and we did not expect to have the ſame farther extended. France has, on one ſide of the Mont Genevre, Briançon; why Savoy ſhould not fortify on the other, is hard to imagine and if, the dif-

ſans plus de difficulté arrêtés par la cour de France, ſuivant les juſtes ſentimens & intentions de ſa Majeſté.

"Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de France dépêchent ce ſoir ou demain, un courier à leur cour, avec le projet de notre traité à faire, & il ſeroit très utile ſi my Lord Duc de Shrewſbury pouvoit recevoir ſes ordres, & les exécuter avant que le dit courier de France fut renvoyé ici; d'autant plus, que Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de France ſe ſont expliqués, que ce points devant être décidés par le Roi, Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury devoit lui en parler. Nous avons l'honneur d'être, avec beaucoup de reſpect,

My Lord, votre humble, &c.

Le Comte MAFFEI,

MELLAREDE.

Utrecht,
ce 7me Mars, 1713.

ference about the equivalent for the barrier being over, this diſpute is to ſucceed, there will be no end of treating. But I aſk pardon for ſaying ſo much to your Grace, upon a matter which is, perhaps, at this time decided.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, March 3rd, 1712-13.

I PROPOSED diſpatching this courier, and my Lord Dartmouth agreed with me, not only that we might acknowledge the receipt of your Grace's letters of the 8th, N.S. but that we might likewiſe acquaint you with the true reaſon, ſince ſeveral falſe ones will to be ſure be given, why the Queen does not open the Parliament this day, as ſhe intended to have done.

On Sunday morning the Duke d'Aumont came to ſee me, and communicated to me a memorial, of which I gave your Grace an account in the other letter. He let himſelf in immediately to complain that he had been miſrepreſented at his own Court. Among a multitude of words, the only clear propoſitions I could underſtand were theſe: That he doubted the Duke of Shrewſbury and Mr. Prior had made him paſs for one who took his information from the refugees, and who was ill with the Treaſurer and your ſervant. I could not forbear telling him, that theſe were indeed very ſtrong objections to his conduct, and ſuch as I hoped and believed he would never give occaſion for, as I was ſure he would never have any reaſon to complain of the two perſons laſt named. That our country was hard to be known,

and

and that indeed a ſtranger, who took it into his head to beat out new ways, run a great *riſque de s'égarer*. That I was aſſured your Grace and Mr. Prior too, had done him all imaginable juſtice, and that theſe reports were ſo eaſily deſtroyed, that he need give himſelf no farther concern about them.

I confeſs to your Grace, I was very well pleaſed with this converſation, becauſe it gives me hopes that he will take warning, and not explore new tracts, inſtead of walking on in thoſe, which hitherto have carried us on ſucceſsfully enough.

I think the Whigs ſeem to give up the ſucceſs of this ſeſſion. Their principal heroes are gone the circuit; Nottingham is pelted from all quarters. I cannot help ſaying, in the fullneſs of my ſoul, to your Grace, that if we do not eſtabliſh ourſelves, and the true intereſt of our country, it is the Queen's and Treaſurer's fault. The clamour of Jacobitiſm ſeems to be the only reſource of our enemies, and I am ſorry to tell you, that the Duke of Argyle gives too affectedly into that poor artifice.

You ſee, my Lord, how far the pleaſure of correſponding with your Grace carries me, and how impertinent your indulgence renders me.

Private as well as public letters, by the ſame courier; and a multitude of cypher, properly or improperly uſed, will, I doubt, give you a ſurfeit of him who is,

My Lord, your Grace's, &c.

To Mr. Breton.

Whitehall, March 6th, 1712-13.

I ENTER into all the uneaſineſs which you feel, and which you foreſee at the Court where you are. The Queen does ſo too, and I will anſwer that you ſhall be maſter of ſtaying or being recalled, as you think moſt agreeable to your intereſt and to your inclination. But let me conjure you to ſee how the new King ſets out*: if he takes a good pli, have your ſhare of merit; if he takes a bad one, let that be the reaſon of your leaving Berlin. As to your rank, and as to other croſſes which you have had, and which my feeble intereſt has not been able to prevent, I can only ſay, that I will be the firſt to adviſe you to come back, to ſell, or retire, if they are not removed or repaid. But I have bore very ſevere trials of the ſame nature, and am thoroughly convinced that in the chaſe of fortune, and a life of buſineſs, a man muſt go through bad as merrily as through good way to arrive at his journey's end.

Mr. Whitworth tells me, he has writ to you; if I have not done it ſooner, you muſt excuſe me on account of the ſtrange, and I believe unprecedented ſtate that I have lived in for ſome time. It would appear affected to ſpeak of it now; ſome time or other I hope we ſhall. Adieu. I am, with a faithful and ſincere heart,

Dear Willy,

Your's, &c.

* Frederick, the late King, was the firſt who was acknowledged as ſuch. He laid the foundation of that military power and diſcipline, which, to the ſucceeding monarchs, were ſo highly beneficial; but, for his greater renown, it is recorded, that he was a good Prince, and the laſt action of his life, was the dictating a letter to his Miniſter, Count Ilgen, in favour of the Proteſtant ſufferers in France.

To

To the Earl of Orrery.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, March 6th, 1712-13.

WE hope every day to receive the peace ſigned, and probably before this letter can reach your hands, you will have heard that it is ſo.

I know your Lordſhip's concern for the length and ſuſpenſe of the negociation. I muſt therefore be ſenſible of the pleaſure with which you will hear that it is concluded.

The Queen's health is, God be praiſed! very good; but the gout not having entirely ſpent itſelf, her Majeſty thought fit to defer till Tueſday next, to open the Parliament, for fear of cold, which might have repelled the humour.

I cannot foreſee, beſides the clamour of Jacobitiſm, and of the danger of Popery, which, except a few old women, nobody is in earneſt about, any theme for Lord Nottingham's eloquence to diſplay itſelf upon; and I think the ſeſſion will be quiet and ſhort. The peace made, and the nation ſettled on this new bottom, I hope we ſhall feel the good effects of a new ſcene of affairs at Court. Till then we are referred; till then, perhaps, it is reaſonable to refer us.

As to your Lordſhip's private affairs, I have not been unmindful of them, but as I make it a rule to ſay nothing to my friends, when I have not a certain anſwer to give, your Lordſhip muſt excuſe me if I am at preſent ſilent on this head. I think you will very ſoon be at liberty to come over, and in the mean time, I will employ your proxy as I judge your Lordſhip would do your own vote.

I am, &c.

To

To the Earl of Strafford.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 19th, 1712-13.

I CANNOT forbear troubling your Lordſhip with a private letter, though you muſt be at this time in a greater hurry than ever.

It is, I think, neceſſary that your Lordſhip ſhould know the preſent ſtate of things at home in ſo critical a conjuncture; and I believe you will be of opinion that they muſt, to a certain degree, be reſpected in all governments, more eſpecially in a government like ours. The making of the peace, my Lord, will vex none but thoſe who are vexed already, and of whom I hope the reſolution is taken of never ſtriving to pleaſe; beſides which it is to be conſidered, that as the concluſion of your work will exaſperate, ſo it will diſarm and diſpirit.

On the other hand, the long ſuſpence of the treaty gives hopes to this faction, and conſequently increaſes their clamour, and whets their rage; whilſt thoſe who wiſh well to their country, and who, thanks be to God! are a vaſt majority in every part of the kingdom, grow tired with expectation, and uneaſy under the delay.

If all the parties concerned are ready at once to ſign, that, to be ſure, is moſt eligible. But if the Queen's peace is made, and the terms for her allies aſcertained, you will find the ſenſe of the nation to be, that we have ſtayed long enough, and that it was time to reſolve to ſtay no longer. Upon the whole matter, we ſhould ward againſt the objections of your friends, our enemies will never want any.

I flatter myſelf that theſe laſt orders and powers will remove all difficulties, and diſſipate all doubts, and that we ſhall very ſoon receive from

your hands the moſt welcome preſent that you can make to your Queen and country.

Give me leave to wiſh your Lordſhip moſt heartily joy of Lady Strafford's happy delivery. I hope the next addition to your family will be a ſon, and that he may prove ſuch an one as will follow the example of his father, and carry down without interruption the reputation of your name to poſterity.

I am, &c.

To the Lord Privy Seal.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 19th, 1712-13.

I RECEIVED this morning the honour of your Lordſhip's private letter of the 28th, N.S. with the public diſpatch, and return you my humble thanks for the favourable manner in which you are pleaſed to accept my endeavours to ſerve you.

The perſon your Lordſhip is pleaſed to mention has, I believe, a good inſight into trade; but I have ſome notion that he was ſuſpected, and, if I remember right, not without ſome grounds, of carrying on a clandeſtine trade, during the war, to France. Some thoughts I have had of Mr. Drummond; and if a way could be found of making the conſulſhip a little more valuable, I believe the poſt would ſuit him, as I verily think he would ſuit the poſt. Mr. Wood's intereſt ſhall be my particular care, and, one way or other, I doubt not the Queen will provide for him.

Give me leave, my Lord, to ſay a word or two, in this private letter, of public buſineſs. We are ſurrounded with implacable enemies, a faction at home not numerous, but deſperate. I wiſh I had no

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reaſon to add to theſe our confederates abroad: no condeſcenſion, no temper, no moderation can abate the edge of the malice of this league, and till the peace is made, their malice is terrible; becauſe, God alone can tell what accidents may happen, and they are ready to improve any to the common confuſion. The bulk of the nation is declaredly againſt theſe people, and is aware of their deſigns: but then, as it too often happens in a good cauſe, our friends are apt to cool, which renders them no match for the fury of party agitators, and they languiſh under the long expectation of what they ardently wiſh. This is not all. The reaſons of the delay of the treaty cannot be expoſed to public view, and if they could, few would be competent judges of the validity of them. Whereas, every man will feel the difference of the national expence, and many perhaps will imagine it greater than in truth it will be. The uſe I would preſume to make of theſe reflections and of divers others, which your Lordſhip's thoughts will better ſuggeſt to you than I can pretend to do, is the neceſſity either of ſigning immediately in conjunction with the allies, or of ſigning on the Queen's part, without ſtaying for them. The firſt is to be ſure beſt, but the laſt is infinitely better than a delay of twenty-four hours.

Your Lordſhips are, it is very true, in the eye of faction, and every ſtep you take, is expoſed to the comment of party; but ſo are thoſe who have the honour to ſerve with you; we ſerve together, and, by the grace of God, we will ſtand and fall together; of the latter, I think, there is no danger, but by the failure or longer delay of the peace.

If your Lordſhip could ſee as nearly as I do, what paſſes now here, and what the preſent diſpoſitions of men are, you would the more eaſily excuſe the liberty I take. I hope, however, for your Lordſhip's pardon, ſince the frankneſs I uſe proceeds from no principle but that of zeal for the Queen's ſervice, and of true reſpect for your Lordſhip, to whom, I am, &c.

A Monſieur

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Verſailles, le 8me Mars, 1713.

VOUS verrez, Monſieur, par les lettres de Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury, que le Roi n'a voulu tirer d'autre avantage du bon état où ſe trouvent les diſpoſitions faites pour la campagne, que celui d'en prévenir l'ouverture, & de conclure la paix préſentement, plutôt que d'attendre à la traiter les armes à la main.

Sa Majeſté s'eſt conformée à tout ce que la Reine a deſiré, ainſi le plan de la paix générale, & celui de la paix particulière étant également concertés, rien n'empêche que l'une ou l'autre ne ſoit inceſſamment ſignée à Utrecht, ſuivant ce que vous me faites l'honneur de me marquer.

Sa Majeſté Britannique pourra par conſéquent annoncer à ſon Parlement le fruit des ſoins qu'elle a pris pour le repos de l'Europe, & contraindre les mal-intentionnés à garder le ſilence. On ne doute pas ici qu'elle n'en ſoit abſolument maîtreſſe, & je vous aſſure, my Lord, qu'il n'y a point d'avis où l'on ajoute plus de foi, qu'à ceux que vous voulez bien donner pour l'avantage réciproque des deux nations. Vous avez trop bien réuſſi à le procurer, peur avoir aucune défiance de ce qui vient de votre part, & ſi jamais vous aviez envie de me tromper, vous pourriez jouir long-tems de ce plaiſir, avant que j'en euſſe le moindre ſoupçon: je ſuis en vérité bien éloigné de pareilles idées, & je vous demande encore, à l'occaſion de la paix que je compte faite, la continuation de la même confiance & des mêmes marques d'amitié, dont vous m'avez honoré.

Je ſuis perſuadé, my Lord, que la Reine ſera contente du conſentement général que le Roi donne à tout ce qu'elle a demandé; mais

les malheureux particuliers, qui auront des biens dans les lieux cédés ou reſtitués, ne le ſeront guères de la loi que vous leur impoſez par l'article 14, ſi ſa Majeſté Britannique, remplie d'équité, & inſtruite des clauſes des traités, ne décide pas ſur ce point; comme il y a bien de l'attendre de ſa juſtice.

Je me rapporte à ce que j'ai eu l'honneur de dire ſur ce ſujet à Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury, & à ce qu'il en aura écrit, & j'eſpère qu'un traité, qui doit faire le bonheur des deux nations, & dont la conduite & la concluſion ſont dües à vos ſoins, ne renfermera pas la moindre apparence d'injuſtice.

Je reſſens bien vivement, my Lord, l'attention que vous voulez bien donner aux intérêts de Monſieur le Duc de St. Pierre, & je vous aſſure que je n'ai pas beſoin de nouvelles raiſons pour fortifier l'attachement que j'ai pour vous, & avec lequel je ſerai toute ma vie, plus que perſonne,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce 23me Mars, V.S. 1712-13.

IL faut que je profite de cette occaſion, Monſieur, pour vous aſſurer de mes très-humbles reſpects, & pour vous dire que les lettres que j'ai reçu d'Utrecht, du 20me, 21me, & 25me, m'avoient preſque déſeſpéré; celles du 28me m'ont un peu conſolé; je vois par ces dernières que la paix de tout le monde ſera faite en même-tems; les conditions que Monſieur de Sinzendorf demande, pour qu'il puiſſe ſigner celle de l'Empereur, étant d'une nature à ne pouvoir pas accrocher la négociation.

Monſieur

Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont a été informé, de tems en tems, des prétextes dont on s'eſt ſervi, pour différer d'un jour à l'autre la ſignature des traités entre la Grande Bretagne & la France, il ſait auſſi les réponſes que j'ai données, & les ordres précis & réitérés que j'ai envoyés, de la part de la Reine; ainſi je n'entre pas dans ce détail, vous en ſerez déjà inſtruit.

Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury vous communiquera, Monſieur, les ordres que la Reine a donnés, & qu'elle fera obſerver touchant les *bonâ immobilia* des ſujets du Roi. Sa Majeſté, aura une entière ſatisfaction là-deſſus, & la Reine prendra avec plaiſir cette nouvelle occaſion de montrer combien les intérêts de la France lui ſont à cœur. Elle ne doute point que le Roi de ſon côté ne veuille jeter un œil de compaſſion ſur ces malheureux qui ſouffrent dans les galères *; cette action ſera digne du grand cœur, & de la piété du Roi; elle ſera la marque la plus eſſentielle que ſa Majeſté puiſſe donner de ſa conſidération pour la Reine, & elle fermera la bouche à tous ces mauvais diſcoureurs, qui ne cherchent qu'à noircir l'ouvrage de la paix, & les caractères de tous ceux qui s'en ſont mêlés.

Je ſuis, &c.

B.

* In June, 1712, the Queen ſent the Marquis de Miramont to Utrecht, upon a ſpecial commiſſion in behalf of the French refugees and the Proteſtants, as well in France, in the galleys, as on the Continent.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

My Lord,

Paris, March 23rd, 1713, N.S.

I THINK it is proper for your Lordſhip's information, as well as Lord Treaſurer's, to ſend you the copy of a letter I received from Lord Lexington; ſome of the objections are ſlight, ſome are anſwered by the ſolemnity with which the whole paſſed laſt week in Parliament, and Monſieur de Torcy aſſures me the renunciations of theſe Princes were formed and approved in Spain; however, I ought to obſerve to you, that the renunciations of the Dukes of Berry and Orleans, having been made before I came hither, and, as I underſtand, before the draughts were ſent to England, which will appear by the dates of them, the ſolemnity of taking an oath was not obſerved at that time, which I ſee was done by the King of Spain; I mentioned this the other day to Monſieur de Torcy, who ſeemed not to have remarked whether they had ſworn or not, and is not verſed in theſe forms; but by his anſwer I am inclined to believe, if that, or any other thing their conſtitution permits them to do, be yet inſiſted upon, it will not be denied, in order to give full ſatisfaction upon this head; but on the other hand, if the public manner in which theſe Princes gave their conſent in the Parliament, be thought ſufficient, I am of opinion nothing new ſhould be aſked that were not material, of which I acknowledge myſelf a very ill judge, being wholly unacquainted with forms, and having no Civilian here I can depend upon.

It may be proper farther to take notice to your Lordſhip, that, by letters from Utrecht, I perceive the allies, as well as the French, ſeem indifferent whether the Emperor, at the concluſion of the peace, ſhould renounce to thoſe parts of the Spaniſh Monarchy which the King of Spain is to poſſeſs, and conſequently his Catholic Majeſty not renounce to thoſe parts of

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that monarchy the Emperor is to poſſeſs; this ſeems to be making a peace, and at the ſame time leaving ſuch ſeeds for another war, that it is well worth reflection, whether ſuch renunciations on all hands ſhould not be made at a general peace; and the rather, becauſe the renunciations lay down the balance of power in Europe as their foundation; expreſſing that Spain ought not to be united either to France or the Houſe of Auſtria; and there is an expreſſion in the Duke of Orleans' renunciation, which in ſome meaſure makes the Emperor's renouncing a condition.

This letter being only writ for your Lordſhip and Lord Treaſurer, I hoped I might have diſpatched my public letter to yourſelf and Lord Dartmouth at the ſame time; but Monſieur de Torcy's courier calling in haſte, I want time, and ſhall ſend another to-morrow with the inſtruments relating to the renunciation; Mr. Prior being now at Verſailles upon that buſineſs, and till his return I am not fully enough informed to write.

I am, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, March 25th, 1713, N.S.

I AM to acknowledge your Lordſhip's of the 3rd inſtant, and am very glad to have your approbation of what I may have done here towards perfecting the peace. I hope your Lordſhip's orders to Utrecht will have finiſhed the concluding it there; though by letters received from thence ſince they had orders of the 28th of February, O.S. I find there ſtill remain ſome difficulties, but ſuch as I hope are already overcome; the firſt is the referring the conſideration of the four ſpecies to commiſſioners,

upon which I have to ſay, that when I told Monſieur de Torcy her Majeſty's reſolutions in thoſe words, as you find them in the memorial laſt agreed to, *comme la Reine a déjà conſenti de renvoyer la diſcuſſion des quatre eſpèces à la détermination des commiſſionaires après la paix, ſa Majeſté entend que les Etats en feront de même*, he alledged, that this ſtipulation was unneceſſary, for the Dutch had already departed from thoſe demands; to which I replied, that in caſe the thing were ſo, we had no more to ſay on that head; but however, that nothing ſhould be altered in the whole memorial, it was agreed that it might ſtand as it was.

The French Plenipotentiaries in their laſt letter to Monſieur de Torcy affirm, that the Dutch had departed from the ſpecies to be referred, and that, as well the Dutch as our Plenipotentiaries, do ſtill acknowledge that they had departed from that demand; but after having ſeen the abovementioned clauſe of the memorial, they inſiſt anew upon the point before given up, taking for pretext, that they made this conceſſion when they expected, or hoped at leaſt, to have all the Chatellenies and dependencies, which they demanded, about Ipres, but that Balleul being now given to the French, they think themſelves diſengaged from their former conceſſion; I give your Lordſhip this plain account, that the Queen may ſee how this matter ſtands, and if it be not already adjuſted, that her Majeſty may give ſuch orders as ſhe judges proper.

As to the other point of the Elector of Bavaria's returning into the Palatine Electorate, if he is ſo to do, after the death of the preſent Elector, and his brother Charles only, or after the extinction of all the brothers and their heirs, Monſieur de Torcy aſſerts, that that matter has been already ſettled in the manner that the French Plenipotentiaries affirm, and referred himſelf thereupon to your Lordſhip.

The renunciations, as I receive them authentically atteſted, I have ſent one to Lord Lexington, and another to Lord Dartmouth; as I do likewiſe

wiſe ſend to the Lords Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht a third, atteſted as a true copy.

I have acquainted Monſieur de Torcy with what your Lordſhip writ me of the method which her Majeſty had taken to be informed of *bona immobilia*, with which he does not doubt but the King will be very well ſatisfied, when he informs his Majeſty of it.

As to the points of the Vegevanaſco, and the right of fortifying, upon which the Savoy Plenipotentiaries write to your Lordſhip, I underſtand this King will ſatisfy his Royal Highneſs, and has ſent orders accordingly to his Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht; but as to the point of ſucceſſion in the family of Savoy to that part of the Spaniſh Monarchy which the Emperor is to have, in caſe of failure in the Auſtrian line, this Court look upon it as a propoſition entirely new, and as what will not appear, throughout the whole courſe of the negociation, to have been ſtipulated, or ever demanded; allowing it to be a thing of great conſequence, and what may merit a future conſideration, they conſider as conſiſting of ſuch various parts and claims, and as a thing at ſo remote a diſtance, in which ſo many people's conſent muſt be formally obtained, that they judge it impracticable to be ſettled, in a treaty which they think ſo near being perfected, as to expect every day its being ſigned.

Mr. Prior has ſent to Mr. Gilligan the papers incloſed in your Lordſhip's of the 3rd, and the paragraph of that letter relating to the affair of the aſſiento; and before the receipt of your letter, Mr. Prior, in anſwer to one from Mr. Gilligan, had writ to him to ſend us more explicitly the ſtate of that matter: as to the ſums to be agreed on, to buy off the French effects; Monſieur de Torcy in the mean time aſſures me, that the thing is in a fair way of being adjuſted at Madrid, and is apprehenſive it may be embroiled if we enter upon it here, before we hear farther from Spain.

I am, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

P.S.

P.S. I ſend your Lordſhip incloſed an account concerning the King of Sweden, which I received laſt night from his Miniſter here.

The ſuſpenſion of arms finiſhes the 22nd of next month, which I only mention in caſe they ſhould not ſign ſo ſoon at Utrecht, that no time may be loſt to renew, though I hope there will be no occaſion.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

My Lord,

Whitehall, March 24th, 1712-13.

I TAKE the opportunity which the departure of this courier gives me, to acknowledge the honour of your Grace's letters of the 23rd and 25th of this month, both which I have read to the Queen, and communicated to my Lord Treaſurer.

We really took it for granted here, that the Princes of the blood in France had ſworn to their ſeveral renunciations of the crown of Spain, as King Philip did to his renunciation of the crown of France; and the words at the latter end of the renunciations of the Dukes of Berry and Orleans confirmed this opinion. It is there ſaid, *Nous jurons ſolennellement ſur les évangiles contenus au miſſel, &c.*

I confeſs, my Lord, the inſertion of theſe words in the acts, and the omiſſion of the ſolemnity of the oath, carry ſomething along with them which I do not like; the Queen ſeemed to be of the ſame mind: and if I have nothing more particular in command to ſay to your Grace upon this head, I believe it is becauſe things are thought ſo far advanced, that there is hardly time to overhale this proceeding; and in ſuch caſe perhaps, it were better to take it for granted the Princes have ſworn, than to enter into a conteſt, which may give ground to other people now, and to the French hereafter, to cavil about the validity of

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theſe acts. Will your Grace allow me to add my private ſentiment? If you find the want of this ſolemnity may be ſtill ſupplied previouſly to the peace, or on the ratifying of it, the Princes, I think, ought to ſwear, not as if at your Grace's inſtance they were doing an act which they had before neglected, but as if they took the oath in a proper time and place.

As to the latter part of your Grace's letter of the 23rd, I believe you may remember, my Lord, that Philip ſome time ago, deſired the Emperor might be obliged to renounce to Spain, and the Imperial Court at that time thought they ſhould be able to protract the treaty, and to catch ſomewhat more in the ſcramble, by valuing their airy title high, and by inſiſting on terms before they parted with it. For theſe reaſons, the Spaniſh Miniſters were beat off from this demand then, as the Imperial Miniſters now deſire to have it not made upon them, ſo that I fear it will be impracticable to alter this part of the ſyſtem. The ſeveral treaties will make the partition, the ſeveral treaties will be ſworn to, and if hereafter luſt of power, and favourable opportunities, ſhould prevail on ſome of the parties to invade the others, in ſpite of the treaties, the ſame temptations would, I fear, have the ſame effect, in ſpite of the renunciations. I would beg leave to add, that the union of France and Spain was ſo near in proſpect, and ſo terrible in conſequence, that nothing leſs than the meaſure taken could appear ſufficient to prevent it. Whereas, if Philip or his iſſue, ſhould in time to come attempt to repoſſeſs themſelves of any diſmembered part of Spain's ancient dominions, ſuch a war would be as little formidable to Great Britain perhaps, as any that could ariſe; and if this Emperor or any future Auſtrian Prince, ſhould think of conquering Spain and the Indies, he might be laughed at for a madman, but the ſound of his trumpets would frighten nobody. Your Grace is ſo much uſed to in-

dulge me, that I depend on your goodneſs to excuſe the freedom, with which I throw out theſe crude thoughts which occur to me.

The account which your Grace gives of the four ſpecies, unriddles what I did not underſtand before. My Lords the Plenipotentiaries write in ſuch a ſtyle concerning the intereſts of Holland, in their letter of the 28th, that this difficulty, as well as all others, we conclude is over; and therefore, the only orders which went laſt poſt to Utrecht, are thoſe which your Grace will find in the incloſed copy of my diſpatch of Friday laſt.

In this ſituation of affairs, I ſhould ſay nothing on that point of the Elector of Bavaria's returning to the rank of firſt Elector, and to the Upper Palatinate; did not Monſieur de Torcy refer himſelf to me, as your Grace is pleaſed to tell me in yours of the 25th: Monſieur de Torcy ſhould remember, and I am confident Mr. Prior does, that when I was in France, I poſitively refuſed to engage for the Queen, in anything relating to the Elector of Bavaria, farther than the Plenipotentiaries had gone at that time, at Utrecht. If your Grace pleaſes to compare what is ſaid on this ſubject, in the ſecond column of the general plan, with the minutes taken at Fontainbleau, Auguſt 21ſt, 1712, you will ſee this to be fact.

The Queen has all along entrenched herſelf in the general, and, according to Monſieur Buys, vague propoſition. She never would determine for the explication thereof, made by the German Miniſters, that the Elector ſhould not return to his rank, and to the Upper Palatinate, till after the extinction of the Rudolphin line, nor for that made by the French Miniſter, that he ſhould return immediately on the death of the Elector Palatine and his brother Charles, without regard even to the children of the latter. Both ſides have frequently applied to the Queen, but both ſides have failed in their attempts to engage her to explicit declaration. If the French underſtand her ſilence to be an aſſent

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to their explication of the general article, the Germans may as well conclude that the ſame ſilence is an engagement in their behalf; but enough of this, the Elector of Bavaria has had fair play, and his buſineſs goes better than he had reaſon to expect, though her Majeſty has kept herſelf free from declarations and engagements, which were not conſiſtent with the meaſures it became her to keep towards other Princes.

My Lord Treaſurer writes to your Grace, concerning the *bona immobilia* of the French, and the liberty of the Galeriens. I have only to acquaint your Grace, that Mr. Moore * is preparing ſuch a ſcheme as ſhall effectually anſwer the deſire of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty on one head, and we hope the Miniſters in France will think of doing the other with an equal good grace. It may, perhaps, be neceſſary to obſerve that the Queen does not mean, as I ſee Monſieur de Torcy, in a letter to Gaultier, ſtates it, to alter the clauſe in the treaty about immoveables. No, my Lord; as we ſhall have no ſtipulation in favour of the Proteſtants, ſo neither ſhall the French have any in favour of their immoveables; but the Queen takes the King's word in one caſe, and he muſt take her Majeſty's in the other, which your Grace is impowered to give.

I ſay nothing about Savoy, nor about Mr. Gilligan's letter to Mr. Prior, becauſe we hear from Utrecht and from Madrid, that thoſe matters are over.

The true ſtate of the King of Sweden's affairs, is much worſe than his Miniſter repreſented them to your Grace; it is high time to think of ſaving him in ſpite of himſelf, ſomething is doing towards it, but I have not time to enter into that detail.

I muſt beg leave, before I conclude this long letter, to recommend to

* Arthur Moore, a Commiſſioner of trade and plantations, and principally concerned in framing the treaty of commerce.

your favour a very hard caſe, which I have writ to Mr. Prior upon. Mr. William Churchill, who has had the honour of your Grace's patronage formerly, and for whom I have had a long kindneſs, is deeply concerned in it. A letter of attorney, and the vouchers, are ſent to Mr. Arbuthnot, who will apply to your Grace, and I once more entreat your favour to the parties concerned. I incloſe a memorial on this head for your Grace's information, and am, with the greateſt reſpect, &c.

To Mr. Drummond.

SIR,

Whitehall, March 24th, 1712-13.

ALTHOUGH I have not lately troubled you unneceſſarily with any of my letters, yet I have not been unmindful of your intereſts; I waited an opportunity of acknowledging my perſonal obligations to you, as well as the eſſential ſervices which you did the Queen's affairs, at a time when the ſituation of them was extremely nice, and I think the opportunity now offers itſelf.

Notwithſtanding the alterations made in the barrier of the States-General, by the new treaty, certain it is, that all poſſible care muſt be taken, in agreeing at firſt on prudent regulations, and in preſerving theſe regulations afterwards, or the Britiſh commerce to the Spaniſh Low Countries, will be expoſed to great hardſhips, perhaps to ruin. Commiſſaries were to meet in Flanders, to adjuſt, on the behalf of the Queen, the Emperor, and the States-General, ſuch rules and methods as are moſt proper to preſerve and keep things, in reſpect to trade, on the foot whereon they ſtood during the reign of the late King of Spain. But, my Lords the Plenipotentiaries are of opinion,

and her Majeſty agrees with them, that this work may be more advantageouſly and more expeditiouſly performed at Utrecht, under the influence of the Miniſters of the reſpective parties, than in any other place. I ſhall therefore ſend you by Friday's poſt, her Majeſty's commiſſion, under the great ſeal, to authorize you to undertake and proceed in this buſineſs. As the joining any one to you, who is not ſkilful in affairs of this nature, can never advance, and may prejudice the ſervice; and as I have not any proper perſon to offer to the Queen, you will be at firſt ſingly employed, if hereafter another ſhould be thought of, he may be added by another commiſſion. In the mean while, that no time may be loſt, your commiſſion ſhall be diſpatched.

Thus much I have acquainted my Lords the Plenipotentiaries with, but I think it proper to let you know farther, that the Queen is ſo diſſatisfied with Loggan's behaviour, and indeed inſufficiency, that he is to be removed, and his poſt filled by you.

Mr. Laws cannot well be continued, for ſeveral reaſons, in thoſe countries after the peace, and her Majeſty has determined to appoint you her Secretary and Reſident at Bruſſels, ſo that theſe two employments, which are very compatible, and perhaps better placed in one than in two, will, I believe, render your poſt very agreeable to you.

I was not willing to let this poſt go, without acquainting you what you are to expect in general; by the next I ſhall write more particularly on the ſubject of your commiſſion. Your letter of the 31ſt, came to my hands laſt night, for which, I am to return my thanks, and to deſire you to be perſuaded that at all times and on all occaſions, you may depend on the beſt ſervices of,

Sir, &c.

To the Earl of Orrery.

Whitehall, March 24th, 1712-13.

MY dear Lord, I do not wonder at your impatience to get out of the bad company which you have kept of late. If a man is doomed to ſtruggle with faction, he would, I think, chooſe to do it at home, but to go abroad on this errand is intolerable.

The Queen, to whom I opened your Lordſhip's preſent ſituation and your requeſt, is as deſirous as you can be, to give up the government into the Emperor's hands, and commands me to let your Lordſhip know that as ſoon as you can return home, it is her intention you ſhould; but upon your departure from Bruſſels, her Majeſty would have it known that you return thither no more, and that ſhe has withdrawn herſelf from any future ſhare in the adminiſtration of thoſe affairs.

I write to my Lords the Plenipotentiaries upon this ſubject, and I take it for granted, your Lordſhip will hear from them very ſuddenly, that the Emperor and States are agreed, as to the terms of the barrier of of the latter, after which ſome form of giving up the government to his Imperial Majeſty muſt I ſuppoſe be obſerved, and then your Lordſhip will immediately, purſuant to the letters which next boat ſhall carry to you, take your leave of your ſeditious ſubjects, and haſten to the arms of your friends and miſtreſſes.

We ſhall wind up our bottoms probably in as little time as you can get ready for your journey hither, and I am ſure you would not leave your work, diſagreeable as it is, when you are within ſo few days of concluding it.

The article of trade might have rendered a longer ſtay in the Netherlands neceſſary, but we have given another turn to that matter, and

inſtead of appointing the Commiſſioners to meet in Flanders, where they would have been under your Lordſhips direction, they are now to aſſemble at Utrecht. I incloſe an extract of what I write to the Plenipotentiaries for your Lordſhip's information.

All our accounts from Utrecht, as well as Paris, make us depend ſo much on having the inſtruments of the general peace executed in few days, that the Queen determines to receive them before ſhe meets her Parliament, ſo that the two houſes will not ſit till Thurſday in Eaſter week, which I take be the ninth of April.

The peace made, we may hope to know a little quiet, and to ſee ſome government eſtabliſhed among us; but indeed at preſent, amidſt the clamour of faction, the diſtruſt of friends, and the hurry of buſineſs equally important and voluminous, no ſlavery can be equal to that of

Your ever faithful, &c.

I was glad to meet little Lord Broghil * this morning in the Park ſo well, and in ſo fair a way of continuing ſo.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

My Lord,

Paris, March 31ſt, 1713, N.S.

BY the letters which I have lately received from the Lords Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, and ſome copies and abſtracts of what they write to you, I obſerve that their Lordſhips have a very zealous and commendable intention to endeavour that the ſigning of the peace may be general, and that they conſtantly transfer the ſituation in which the Imperial Miniſters are, as to their demands, and the advances they make to render their coming in practicable; this has occaſioned

* Eldeſt ſon of the Earl of Orrery.

the

the ſending ſeveral ſchemes, in which new points are often ſtarted, and the intereſt of ſome Princes, which we thought ſettled, are again diſputable; and many ſo eſſential alterations are propoſed, that they muſt in their own nature, coſt a great deal of time to adjuſt; the effect of this is, that their Lordſhips ſend to me to preſs this Court to agree to ſeveral points, in which, having no order from the Queen, nor knowing how far her Majeſty may have approved of them, I think I ſhould take too much upon myſelf if I entered into them; my Lord, in caſe no alteration is to be made in the ſcheme already propoſed, and the method by which it is to be effected, I think England, Portugal, Holland, Savoy, and Pruſſia, may in a very ſhort time ſign their reſpective treaties, and the reſt of the allies may profit of the term allowed them, if they think fit; but if thoſe who are now ready, ſhall be obliged to wait for thoſe who are but juſt beginning to treat, I apprehend the whole may prove, like all things of this nature, a work of more time than is at firſt imagined, and may give advantages to the French, which poſſibly are not yet enough foreſeen; one thing is obvious, that the ceſſation in Catalonia and Italy allows them an opportunity of collecting all their power againſt Germany and Flanders.

When your Lordſhip lays this before her Majeſty, as a conſideration of the greateſt conſequence, you will do me the juſtice to add, that I ſhall conform myſelf to her orders with all imaginable duty and zeal for her ſervice I am, my Lord, &c,

SHREWSBURY.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury *.

SINCE I writ this letter I received your Grace's of the 31ſt, by which I find you was under the ſame apprehenſions, and in the ſame ſentiments as the Queen, and thoſe who have the honour to ſerve her here are. I hope my Lords Plenipotentiaries will on my laſt diſpatch, have taken the reſolution of ſigning immediately. My Lord Treaſurer wrote very plainly to them, and the Queen was ſo uneaſy that ſhe once deſigned to have writ herſelf to them.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, March 7-18th, 1713.

I HAVE nothing to add to the incloſed † but that the contents of it gives an univerſal joy here, as I hope it will do on your ſide; in three or four days we ſhall ſend you the atteſted copies of every part of this tranſaction in as authentic a manner, as the nature of the thing and the cuſtom of this kingdom admit: we expect every day news from London, taking it for granted that the Parliament met on Tueſday, this is Saturday; and by the meſſenger, which you have ſent away before now, I hope to hear a word from you concerning myſelf, which you will think abſolutely neceſſary, conſidering how ſmall a time there will be between the ſigning the peace, and the Duke of Shrewſbury's making his entry. In this I refer myſelf to your particular friendſhip and for

* Inſerted as a poſtſcript to the letter to his Grace of the 24th of March, 1712-13.
† Sent to Mr. Tilſon. BOLINGBROKE.

all your favours I can only tell you, that we remember Henry *de la manière du monde la plus amiable.*

Your's ever,

MATT.

Monſieur and Madame de Torcy charge me with their particular reſpects; I eat maigre with them to-day, and we all played the fool as much as people could well do.

P.S. I concerted the gazette yeſterday with Monſieur Torcy, and I believe you will find it juſt as to the naming the Duke of Shrewſbury, or Duc d'Oſſune; one being named firſt as marked (1) and t'other firſt as marked(2).

The Gazette being this moment printed I add it.

Your's my Lord, ever,

M. PRIOR.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, March 25th, 1713.

THE Duke of Shrewſbury has informed your Lordſhip that I have forwarded your directions of the 3d, to Mr. Gilligan; I add the copy of the letter * I had writ to him before I received your letter.

I ſee

* *Copy of Mr. Prior's letter to Mr. Gilligan, at Madrid, dated March* 19, 1713.

"SIR,

"I HAVE communicated your letter of the 27th paſt to the Duke of Shrewſbury, as your injunction and my duty require. I expect your anſwer to what I wrote to you the 6th of March, and repeat to you that I deſire you will more particularly explain how the affair ſtands as to the two hundred thouſand dollars, or five hundred thouſand dollars, or a ſum to be adjuſted between theſe two, if this is to be paid by us and if it be only inſtead of the remaining number of negroes not yet tranſported: likewiſe as to the effects of the French Guinea-Company, if they are to be purchaſed at a reaſonable valuation, what that valuation may be deemed, and how diſtinct from the ſum juſt now mentioned relating to the Negroes, and how it's to be underſtood as to the French ſailing any more to the Spaniſh Weſt-Indies, or an account of their aſſiento privileges, that by ſuch diſtinct adviſes upon theſe heads, as you ſhall be pleaſed to give me. I may apply to the Miniſtry here, if occaſion require, in order to aid your endeavours. I ſuppoſe you write the whole into England, from whence I am to be directed. I ſend you incloſed, the paragraph of a letter from Lord Bolingbroke to the Duke of Shrewſbury, and papers annexed, upon which I cannot ſay more, till I hear from you,

I ſee this court thinks the matter may be beſt adjuſted at Madrid, and I believe ſo from the exorbitance of a petition of the Guinea Company to this King, to which I ſee no direct anſwer is made. I think the matter ſtands thus, that the King, as intereſted in the Company, can better recede in Spain, than give up what his ſubjects may judge their intereſt here: upon Mr. Gilligan's anſwer we ſhall know better *à quoi en être*.

In a letter which the Lords Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht wrote to your Lordſhip, of which likewiſe they ſent us a copy, mention is made of the language of the treaty, I cannot be impertinent, that upon that ſubject I ſend you a *mémoire* * which I find among my papers of Ryſwick.

I preſume they will ſtipulate accordingly in this treaty; as to the original inſtrument of the treaty of Breda, I may tell you we could never find it, and conſequently the treaty of Ryſwick, ratified as you have it in one of the offices, remains ſtill in French. In the articles of the treaty you will always find what we call the ſhort ſtyle uſed, to wit: *Inter Sereniſſimam & Potentiſſimam Principem Annam Magnæ Britanniæ Reginam, &c. & Sereniſſimum & Potentiſſimum Principem Ludovicum 14m Regem Chriſtianiſſimum, &c.*

you, but that I ſhall in the mean time endeavour upon the ſenſe of them, and upon what you have writ to me, to know the opinion of the perſons in this court, who are concerned in the affair of the Spaniſh trade. The Duke of Shrewſbury will give me his favour and interceſſion on this behalf, as his Grace does always in the nobleſt and greateſt manner, as to every thing that is to the advantage of her Majeſty's intereſt, and the good of our country.

"I am, Sir, your's, &c.
"M. PRIOR."

* "*MEMOIRE.*

"Nous ſouſſignés Miniſtres Plénipotentiaires de ſa Majeſté Très Chrétienne déclarons, à la réquiſition des Miniſtres Plénipotentiaires de ſa Majeſté Britannique qui n'ont pas voulu arrêter la concluſion de l'affaire preſſante, dont il s'agit à préſent, que s'il ſe trouve que l'un des inſtrumens des traités qui ont été faits & ſignés à Breda & du depuis entre la France & la Grande Bretagne ne ſoit en François, nous en fournirons un autre en Latin avant la ratification de la convention, faite aujourd'hui à Utrecht le 14me Mars, 1713."

This I receive from Mr. Torcy, it agrees with what I have amongſt my papers of Ryſwick.

Mr. PRIOR.

In their preamble they call themſelves King of France and Navarre, and in our preamble we call ourſelves Queen of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, according to the long ſtyle, as we uſed to expreſs it.

By the Duke of Shrewſbury's leave and order, I go on to rectify a little miſtake in the Lords Plenipotentiaries' letter to you, which I have cited. They ſay Monſieur Gaultier's plan is covertly mentioned in my Lord Duke of Shrewſbury's letter: no, my Lord; the plan which the Duke of Shrewſbury has at any time mentioned, is not Gaultier's plan, but the general plan at which they are working, of which they ſend the articles to Whitehall as they are adjuſted, and of which we ſometimes ſee an article, or part of one, as it is to be altered or agreed to here; and to this plan alone the Duke of Shrewſbury refers in his letter.

I am, my Lord, &c.

M. PRIOR.

From Mr. Prior.*

MATTHEW TO HENRY,

S. P. Dicit, optatque.

WHEN I wrote to your Lordſhip, and to Lord Treaſurer, concerning my expences, and what I was to do at the entry, I likewiſe wrote on the ſubject to Lord Dartmouth, and have this anſwer:—"When the Duke of Shrewſbury makes his entry, the Queen "thinks fit you ſhould appear at it as a private gentleman; for I think "it is agreed, among all thoſe who pretend to be ſkilled in matters of "ceremony, that the commiſſion of Plenipotentiary does not give you "a repreſenting character."

* Private.—BOLINGBROKE.

Do

Do me juſtice, my dear Lord; did I ever deſire to be a lion in Arabia, any more than to be an Ambaſſador at Paris?—And could it be ſuppoſed that I ſhould think I had a repreſenting character, by my aſking for a coach? As to a private gentleman, are there not of theſe animals of all ſorts, from thoſe who have ſix Flanders horſes, to others who drive in a *vinegrette?* But I believe you have concerted this matter already with Lord Treaſurer, and will trouble you no more on this ſubject, than to ſet me right in her Majeſty's opinion as to what I have aſked, and to let you underſtand the validity of the anſwer. Adieu, my dear Lord. I have made all your compliments as you command, and am, entirely your's,

M. PRIOR.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Sunday Night, Twelve.—March 26th, 1713.

LA VIGNE, who brings you this packet, brought the Duke d'Aumont's letter to the King of the 21ſt March, by which we juſt now hear that the Lord Keeper's illneſs is the cauſe of another prorogation. I ſuppoſe we ſhall have a courier from England in a day or two with the ſame news. I cannot detain La Vigne, it being midnight; nor have any thing to add to the incloſed, but my wiſhes for the public ſafety: the Duke of Shrewſbury's packets are all made up, and I preſume, if his Grace has any thing to add, he will order it to be given to La Vigne, who goes from me to his Grace's hotel.

I am, ever, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To

To Mr. Prior.

DEAR MATT,

Whitehall, March 26th, 1713.

THE anſwer whereof you ſent me an extract was very extraordinary indeed.

I deſire you to believe I have not failed to repreſent your caſe, as becomes a ſincere friend, but you muſt excuſe me, if I do not give you a preciſe account of my ſucceſs. In general, let me deſire you to go on, and you will in the end, I dare ſay, have reaſon to be ſatisfied. Aſk no more orders from hence; but as you have credit at Paris, uſe it to put yourſelf into that equipage which becomes the Queen's ſervant in ſuch a ſtation, and at ſuch a time.

Adieu, I am, ever your ſlave,

BOLINGBROKE.

From the Duke of Shrewſbury.

MY LORD,

Verſailles, April 3d, 1713.

BY the incloſed *, which I ſent this morning to Utrecht, your Lordſhip finds, that I have done my beſt endeavours to facilitate here, what yet lies undecided in the general treaty; I hope, the expedient

* *Copy of the Duke of Shrewſbury's letter to the Lords Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht.*

" MY LORDS,

" Verſailles, April 3rd, 1713.

" I TAKE this opportunity of the French courier, to acknowledge your Excellencies' letter of the 25th and 26th March, and to acquaint you thereupon, that in diſcourſe with Monſieur de Torcy, I have endeavoured to facilitate moſt of thoſe points which you have been pleaſed to recommend to me; I am glad to find from that miniſter, that no conſiderable obſtacle remains relating to the intereſts of the States; and that they, as well as Portugal, Savoy, and Pruſſia may be in readineſs to ſign with your Excellencies; as likewiſe that there is no farther diſpute between the Emperor and France,

pedient propoſed for preſerving the Elector of Hanover's rank will be to his Highneſs's ſatisfaction.

Nothing ſeems now unfiniſhed, but what relates to the Emperor, which, as I intimated to you in my laſt, will hardly be accommodated immediately; the two great points, upon which his Imperial Majeſty inſiſts, are, that he may be diſcharged from the preſſure of the treaty of Ilmerſheim *, his Miniſters plainly confeſſing, that he is unable to pay the arrears due upon it; and the other, that he may be ſtill left in poſſeſſion of all thoſe countries which he at preſent poſſeſſes in Italy: theſe are points, in which I ſhould be very glad to have her Majeſty's peculiar direction, for they are ſuch as come in at every turn, when any accommodation is offered in relation to the Emperor.

I muſt tell you, that this Court thinks his Imperial Majeſty will be left too powerful in Italy; that he ought to reſtore thoſe territories, contenting himſelf with his partage of Naples and Milan; but in this, as they are ready firſt to appear, they wiſh to be ſeconded by the Queen, taking it for granted, that it is as much her Majeſty's, as their own intereſt, to reſtrain this too great ſtrength in the ſame Prince; upon this,

France, as to the barrier of the Rhine; and as to preſerving the Elector of Hanover's rank, this Court propoſes an expedient, which is, that after the death of the preſent Elector Palatine, and his brother Prince Charles, at which time they ſuppoſe the elector of Bavaria is to become the firſt ſecular Elector, that branch of the family, which is to ſucceed the Elector Palatine, inſtead of preceding the Elector of Hanover, ſhall come after him, and have place only as the laſt Elector. As to the Elector of Bavaria's intereſt, I am apprehenſive there will be more difficulty than your Excellencies foreſaw; that Prince perſiſting to have thoſe terms performed, which you already know her Majeſty has directed ſhould be propoſed in his favour; as what he thinks more conducive to his intereſt, than the expedient which your Excellencies laſt mentioned. This is a matter in which, if the Emperor had opened his thoughts ſome months ſince, it would have been adjuſted with more facility than it can now be; but as it is, in the term allowed for all the allies to come in, I will not doubt but that it may be accommodated.

I am, my Lord,
Your Excellency's, &c.
SHREWSBURY.

* With the Electreſs of Bavaria, the Emperor received the whole rents and profits of Bavaria, and paid nothing of what he had ſtipulated to pay.

her Majeſty will pleaſe to determine; and your Lordſhip will ſend me new orders, in what manner I may conduct myſelf.

I am, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.*

MY LORD,

Whitehall, March 28th, 1713, O.S.

HAVING read to her Majeſty your Grace's letter of the 3rd of April, together with the copy of what you had writ the ſame day to the Plenipotentiaries, I am commanded to let your Grace know, that the Queen is hopeful, as you are, that the expedient concerning the Elector of Hanover's rank may be to his Highneſs's ſatisfaction.

It were much to be wiſhed that this objection, as well as many others, had been ſooner ſtarted; the Queen would then have more time, and, I may preſume to add, more ſtrength, to negociate for her allies.

We did not indeed apprehend that the conditions on which Count Sinzendorf offered to ſign the Emperor's peace, would have admitted of ſo much difficulty. What led us to think ſo was, his, the Count de Sinzendorff's, affirming that the infractions of the treaty of Ilmerſheim, amounted to much leſs than has been repreſented, and that, particularly at Munich, the Elector of Bavaria would find nothing which belonged to him wanting, except a few pictures which were given to the Duke of Marlborough.

And ſecondly, though it might be reaſonable to endeavour in the courſe of the negociation to reſtrain, to ſome degree, the Imperial power in

* Public letter.

Italy,

Italy. Yet that neither France nor we would look too ſcrupulouſly into that matter, nor retard the general peace by being over careful of thoſe who had no merit on either ſide in the war.

But ſince the propoſals of the German Miniſters on thoſe heads, have not been agreed to at the Court of France; and ſince your Grace deſires her Majeſty's particular directions upon them, as points which are ſtill to be diſputed, and which will come in play at every turn of treaty relating to the Emperor; I do myſelf the honour to acquaint you with the Queen's ſenſe, with her orders which I am directed to ſend to Utrecht, and which will ſerve as an inſtruction to your Grace, at the ſame time.

Her Majeſty could have wiſhed that the Emperor might have been able to ſign when ſhe does, and in order thereunto, that he might have been diſcharged from the demand of making good the treaty of Ilmerſheim; but ſince the Elector of Bavaria inſiſts, and France in his behalf, that her Majeſty's expedient may take place, that the ſovereignty of Luxemburg, under the condition impoſed, may be the Elector's ſecurity, the Queen muſt be on this ſide; ſhe cannot take part againſt what ſhe herſelf offered, and the Emperor can have nothing to object; ſince this perhaps is the eaſieſt way that could be thought of to ſatisfy an obligation, which the Houſe of Auſtria brought on themſelves, and which Great Britain had no ſhare in creating.

The Queen cannot declare herſelf ſo abſolutely and explicitly in the other caſe; ſhe knows very well how much it is the common intereſt of Europe to preſerve the liberty of Italy; and, ſhe has a very compaſſionate ſenſe of the hardſhips which thoſe Princes endure, who have either old claims revived upon them, or who are by force kept out of their patrimony, in defiance, if I miſtake not, of the Golden Bull, by virtue of which the Emperor cannot take to himſelf and family, ſuch fiefs, as by death, forfeiture, or otherwiſe ſhall fall in to him; but then the Queen would hope that this pretence ſhould not be taken to make it impoſſible for the

Emperor to come in, and impoſe new hardſhips upon him. He aſks that, in effect, Italy may be left to his diſcretion, when he aſks to have the coaſt of Tuſcany yielded to him, and to be left in poſſeſſion of what he has, without any condition.

If this be not thought too dangerous a conceſſion, let the terms of reſtitution be laid down at the ſame time as the general propoſition is refuſed; your Grace knows that the Queen is deſirous the King of Spain may retain the inveſtiture of Sienna, and you eaſily ſee her view is rather to throw the ſucceſſion of the Grand Duke into the Houſe of Spain, than to leave it to be ſcrambled for by thoſe of Auſtria and of Bourbon.

This might be made part of the bargain; and ſome reaſonable compoſition, of which the Queen will not aſſume the determination, might be offered as to the other points in diſpute; this would look like deſiring to take care of Italy, and to conclude with the Emperor; but to ſay ſimply he ſhall keep his partage of Naples and Milan, without mentioning the coaſt of Tuſcany, which is mentioned in her Majeſty's ſpeech, and without ſpeaking definitively of the other articles, has an air of keeping this negociation open, for ſome other purpoſe than the ſecurity of Italy.

To conclude, the Queen, my Lord, will not delay, on this ſcore, her treaty, and ſhe hopes that Portugal, Savoy, and Holland will not delay theirs; but ſhe hopes likewiſe that ſuch inſtructions will be given to the Miniſters of France, as may tend to bring theſe differences to a ſpeedy iſſue, and leave the Emperor, as he has hitherto been, without excuſe.

March 30th, 1713.

LAST night I received a letter from the Plenipotentiaries, by which I find they have fixed to-morrow for ſigning the Queen's peace; we are ſorry to find that, after the return of the French courier, there remained

any difficulty in the treaties of Portugal and Holland; we are hopeful they will be got over, and indeed her Majeſty will be very uneaſy if they ſhould hang by difficulties on the part of France, after ſo much has been done on the Queen's part to adjuſt them to common ſatisfaction. Monſieur d'Aumont's courier being to be diſpatched this night, I cloſe my letter to your Grace; the cabinet which ſits this evening may perhaps give me occaſion to write farther, in which caſe I will diſpatch one of the Queen's meſſengers to-morrow.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, March, 29th, 1712-13.

I HAVE received the honour of your Grace's diſpatch of the 3d of April, N.S. wherein was a copy of your letter of the ſame date to her Majeſty's Plenipotentiaries.

You have, indeed, done your part, my Lord, in removing difficulties, and cutting off delays. We have had the good fortune likewiſe, to make an end of ſome, and to anticipate others from hence. Yet, how it happens I do not know, this Hydra, negociation, ſhoots out new heads, and our labour runs in an eternal circle.

I have taken the liberty to write my thoughts very plainly to Utrecht, upon this ſubject. We are not only expoſed to thoſe accidents which your Grace is pleaſed to mention in yours of the 31ſt of March; but whilſt the fury of thoſe who oppoſe the peace, is far from abating, the patience of thoſe who are for it grows tired, and the objection of making neither war nor peace increaſes upon us.

My Lord Treaſurer writ to the Plenipotentiaries in a very preſſing ſtyle*, and the Queen was ſo uneaſy, that ſhe once thought of letting them know her ſenſe, by a letter under her own hand. I am willing to hope there will be no farther delay, as I am ſure there can be no farther excuſe, and that my Lords will ſign at the arrival of the courier from the French Court, although he does not bring ſuch an approbation of the Emperor's project, as they ſeemed to expect and hope for.

We wait with impatience for that happy hour when we ſhall go out of ſuch a war as I heartily wiſh our children's children may never ſee. When the Parliament meets, I believe your Grace will hear that your friends will take the part of attacking†. The other ſide muſt engage on ſome point or other, as well to anſwer the expectation of their own people, as on account of their elections; and if they had not theſe reaſons for doing ſo, their own heat and impetuoſity would carry them to ſome attempt; ſince, therefore, an attack is to be, we had much better make it, than ſtand on the defenſive. I hope we ſhall have a ſhort and eaſy ſeſſion, and that ſuch meaſures will be taken as may ſecure the elections in every part of the kingdom‡, and make the beſt uſe of that peace which we have been ſo long ſtruggling to obtain.

I am, &c.

* The Plenipotentiaries thought their power did not authorize them to ſign the peace unleſs *all* the allies were ready to ſign at the ſame time.—But new orders were ſent.

† The attack was intended by the oppoſition; but the Miniſters reſolved to attack them, and upon thoſe very points which they were to have argued upon.

‡ Parliaments were then triennial, but the next Miniſtry, then called Whigs, made it ſeptennial.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, April 1ſt, 1713.

I SAID in my laſt that the cabinet which was to ſit on Monday night, would, perhaps, give occaſion of writing farther to your Grace on the ſame ſubject, and ſo it has proved.

I ſpent ſome time laſt night in dictating the minutes at the other office, of a diſpatch to your Grace. The letter drawn upon theſe minutes, was ſhown me to-day, and I am very much miſtaken if it does not want a commentary. You will allow me, therefore, to ſtate very ſhortly, her Majeſty's ſenſe, which is pretty near the ſame which I had the honour to communicate to you before.

If the Elector of Bavaria, and France in his behalf, refuſe to give up all claim and ſatisfaction for the infractions of the treaty of Ilmerſheim; and if they agree at the ſame time, to ſtand to the Queen's expedient concerning Luxemburg; her Majeſty is ſo far on their ſide, and my Lords the Ambaſſadors at Utrecht are directed to declare as as much to all parties.

If any ſecurity could in the courſe of the negociation, have been procured to the Princes and States of Italy, againſt the exorbitant power of Auſtria, which they ſeem ſo much to apprehend, the Queen would have been glad of it; but to have the Emperor kept out of the peace, and this hindred from being general, for the ſake of thoſe who have no merit whatever to plead, her Majeſty can no more approve than ſhe can think ſuch remote and ſpeculative dangers ought to be ſet in competition with the imminent and real danger of a war ſtill continuing on the Rhine. Her directions therefore are, and accordingly I write to Utrecht, that the French Miniſters, and the King himſelf,

ſhould

ſhould be earneſtly diſſuaded from keeping the war alive for the ſake of other people, after the intereſts of France are ſettled: and her Majeſty has ſo much contributed to the ſettlement of theſe, that ſhe thinks herſelf the better entitled to preſs the Moſt Chriſtian King to depart from the other.

We are now in hourly expectation of hearing from the Congreſs, and of receiving the inſtruments ſigned. I believe your Grace will take my word, when I promiſe to loſe no time in diſpatching the ratifications of them.

I am, with the utmoſt reſpect, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 1ſt, 1713.

I THOUGHT it better to give your Lordſhip the trouble of a letter, than barely to tell my opinion to Captain Powell, which I have done likewiſe.

We hope your Lordſhips have ſigned the Queen's treaties with France; but thoſe with Spain are ſtill behind, and indeed the Marquis de Monteleon cannot ſtir from hence, until his courier returns from Madrid, whom he every day expects.

The Emperor's peace is not likely to be ſoon adjuſted, the ratifications of all the treaties are to be exchanged; the work of the Commiſſaries about trade in the Netherlands, is to be ſuperintended; and I believe the ancient treaties with Spain, upon this head, muſt be renewed with his Imperial Majeſty; beſides ſeveral other things which do not at this moment occur to me, but which muſt be finiſhed before your Lordſhips can leave Utrecht.

I draw

I draw this ſketch only to ſhow you that it is impoſſible your Lordſhip ſhould be able yet a while to return home, as much as your ſervices here may be wanted, and as much as your friends and ſervants may deſire to ſee you. My lady will, therefore, have more time than that you ſeem to expect, to take the journey in.

I will ſee Captain Powell to-morrow, to give directions for the yatch, and your Lordſhip may be aſſured that nothing which I can do ſhall be omitted to forward her journey, and to make it eaſy to her; but, by the way, I will not attribute her expedition to a curioſity of ſeeing Holland.

I am, my dear Lord, &c.

From the Duke of Shrewſbury.

My Lord,

Paris, April 8th, 1713, N.S.

HAYWOOD arrived here late laſt night; comes forward to you with the plan of peace, ſigned in Spain, the aſſiento treaty, and an authentic copy of the law of the renunciations. As to the plan itſelf, I take it for granted that it is, in general, conformable to her Majeſty's direction: in the little time I had to run it over, I could remark that through it, *la nation Angloiſe*, as to their privileges of trading, is often expreſſed; under which appellation I preſume all her Majeſty's ſubjects are comprehended: and if ſo, may not ſome other term, more extenſive, be inſerted in the ſtead of it? as likewiſe in the article relating to the Catalans, their war called a *rebellion*, may not ſome ſofter expreſſion be found out, conſidering the circumſtances in which theſe people acted?

I am

I am glad to find by Lord Lexington's letter, that the aſſiento is finiſhed in ſuch a manner as he judges ſo advantageous to England; and that every point between Spain and Savoy is agreed as his Royal Highneſs can deſire. Things being thus ſettled at Madrid, and in ſuch forwardneſs at Utrecht, I hope no obſtacle remains to the concluſion of the peace.

Lord Dartmouth will have told you, that two days ſince I ſent him a memorial, which I received of Monſieur du Caſſe, in behalf of the the French Guinea-Company; it would be well if Mr. Gilligan, who is ſoon expected here, may be inſtructed in order to adjuſt that matter.

In a letter from Lord Dartmouth, of the 20th March, he ſays, that Lord Bolingbroke will, by the ſame poſt, inform me of the ſtate of the negociation at Utrecht; you will excuſe me, my Lord, if I ſay I have not received your letter, becauſe you know it is with great ſatisfaction I always hear from you, as well as with great truth that I am, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

P.S. Mr. Prior ſays he wants mightily to hear from you; but I believe he wants more to hear from Lord Treaſurer.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, April 4th, 1713.

YOU will eaſily imagine how very welcome my brother was, ſince he brought the peace *, for which every friend to the Queen and country was under the moſt eager expectation.

The ſigning of the Dutch ſaves us a debate, and them a reſolution, which would not perhaps have been very agreeable to them. I cannot expreſs all I think of that indefatigable zeal and eminent ſufficiency with which your Lordſhip has carried on a negociation which you firſt laid the foundation; may you long live to enjoy the honours which are your due, and the bleſſings of a grateful people.

I am, &c.

A Monſieur le Marquis de Monteleon.

MONSIEUR,

Ce Mardi, Avril 7me, 1713.

PLUS je conſidère le projet de traité, venu en dernier lieu de Madrid, plus je trouve l'impoſſibilité à paſſer certains articles qui ſont contenus là-dedans. Votre Excellence me ſervira de témoin, que je cherche à aplanir toutes les difficultés qui ſe forment, bien loin de vouloir

* On the 11th of April, N.S. the Britiſh Plenipotentiaries, in the morning, informed Count Sinzendorf what they had ſtipulated for the Emperor and empire; that the treaty was to be open till the 1ſt of June, N.S.; that the King of France would not grant a ceſſation of arms; and that that they were going to ſign the peace for Great Britain: they then went to the Miniſters of the other allies, gave them the ſame intimation, and adjourning to the Lord Privy Seal's houſe, met the French Miniſters there, and ſigned the peace, about two o'clock in the afternoon. The Miniſters of Savoy ſigned next; thoſe of Portugal ſigned at eight, and the Pruſſians at eleven. The Miniſters of the States-General did not ſign till three hours after, which time they employed in a fruitleſs endeavour to make alterations.

en créer aucunes. Si donc je trouve de l'impoſſibilité à paſſer ces articles, jugez, s'il vous plaît, par-là, du ſentiment des autres Miniſtres.

L'ouverture du Parlement ſe doit faire Jeudi prochain, nous n'avons, par conſéquent, point de tems à perdre, car je ſerai très fâché d'entendre parler la Reine de la paix avec la France comme faite, & du traité comme ratifié, pendant qu'elle ſera obligée de dire que la négociation avec l'Eſpagne eſt encore ouverte.

Il ſera, dans ce cas, impoſſible de répondre de certains contretems fâcheux qui pourront arriver. Demain à dix heures préciſément du matin, je me rendrai au Bureau; Monſieur Moore s'y trouvera; peut-être pourrons nous trouver des expédiens & des tempéramens, ſur les points diſputés, avec votre aſſiſtance. Comme Monſieur Moore ne parle point le François, je me remets à votre Excellence, ſi vous ne voudriez pas mener avec vous Don Patricio *. Je ſuis, avec toute la conſidération du monde, Monſieur, de votre Excellence, &c.

To the Duke of Shrewſbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, April 8th, 1713.

YOU will find, by my other letter, how great a miſtake has been made at Utrecht; the method propoſed to rectify it, can admit of no reaſonable objection, and yet whether the French will not inſiſt to keep an advantage which they have got, is, I believe, to be apprehended.

* Don Patricio Lawleſs (the Editor believes by birth an Iriſhman) Commiſſary, on the buſineſs of trade, from Spain. It was rumoured, in the year following, that he had been Envoy from the Pretender to Madrid: and a vote in the Houſe of Lords, levelled at him, induced him to leave Great Britain.

In

In this caſe, I may ſay to your Grace that we ſhall loſe great part of the reputation, which from the treaty of commerce might have been otherwiſe expected. Several of our plantation-traders, ſpirited up by Heathcote *, and other diſaffected people, preſented petitions ſome time ago, concerning the exceſſive duties on ſugars; they were anſwered by being checked; and it was inſinuated that though refined ſugar and ſugar-candy were excepted, which affect the trade of Holland, yet ſugars in general were not excepted, and therefore the Britiſh commerce had nothing to fear.

The original memorial which I received from Monſieur de Torcy, in 1711, concerning the ſpecification of the excepted ſpecies, I put into the Plenipotentiaries' hands long ago, and never imagined they would depart from the terms of it, in ſettling the treaty; perhaps I had done better to have kept it in my own hands, and to have inſerted the contents of it in my letter, at the time when my Lords ſhould have uſed it.

The treaties of peace and commerce were read laſt night in the Great Council, and ordered to be ratified; which I hope will be done this evening, though the inſtruments are very long, and the work tedious. Your Grace will be curious to know who ſpoke on that occaſion; and they were, the Treaſurer of the Houſehold †, and the Lord Chief Juſtice Parker. Theſe two wanted more time, it ſeems, to judge of the conditions of the peace. The firſt of them had warmed himſelf, without any provocation, to a degree of heat not becoming that place. I thought this proceeding as much reſented as poſſible, and that reſentment more ſhown than uſually the paſſions of ſome people are. The Lord Keeper took the oaths of Chancellor, and ſo the farce of the night ended. To-morrow the ſeſſion opens, and will, I hope, be ſhort.

I am ever, &c.

* Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Director of the Bank and Eaſt India Company, and in the laſt Parliament member for the City of London.

† Lord Cholmondeley.

To the Earl of Strafford.

Whitehall, April 11th, 1713.

I HAVE, my Lord, your Excellency's private letters of the 13th, 14th, and 18th before me, for all which I moſt heartily thank you, and muſt complain a little, that you ſay you are ſenſible your private letters have always been tedious. I have always read them with pleaſure, and if, at any time, I have not been exactly punctual in my anſwers, your Excellency knows full well how juſt an excuſe I have to plead. I ſincerely wiſh it was in my power to ſerve Monſieur Marſchalch *. Certain it is that he would be of more uſe to his maſter at our Court, than perhaps any other Miniſter; ſince we ſhould concert with him in another manner, than it can be expected we ſhould do with Bonet, who is a very little fellow, or with another whom we may have no knowledge of.

I have received a letter from Monſieur Marſchalch, and intend to anſwer him next poſt, but indeed, as to the ſubſidies, I can give him no great hopes.

I am glad your Lordſhip opened your ſelf ſo far to Sinzendorf, it is pity that any ſpark of war ſhould remain alive, when ſo little is wanting to quench it.

Your Excellency will have heard by this time that the Duke of Shrewſbury has brought the French Court up to that which I wiſh they had ſooner complied with; I am hopeful that this diſpoſition on the part of France, cultivated by your good offices, will bring the Imperial Miniſters to an accommodation.

* The Pruſſian Miniſter, at the Hague.

It

It is proper I ſhould give your Excellency a hint, which you will pleaſe to give to my Lord Biſhop likewiſe, and that is, that the Duke d'Oſſuna * is not in the ſecret of his Court; his quality is to give ſplendor to the embaſſy, but Montéleon is to do the buſineſs. You will hear, perhaps, very odd and extravagant diſcourſes from him, which your Excellency will pleaſe to receive civilly, but to lay no weight upon; Montéleon will ſoon be on your ſide, with him you will do your work, and by him you will lead the other.

What you ſaid, ſome time ſince, to Prince Kurakin, was exactly right; and I am ſure I ſpoke to the Daniſh Miniſter (for the Muſcovite Envoyé is a cripple, and I never ſee him) in terms rather more ſtrong than thoſe which you uſed. But the miſrepreſentations, of what is ſpoke to theſe Gentlemen, happen every day, and I have frequently ſeen myſelf quoted for long ſpeeches, one ſyllable of which never came out of my mouth. I think your Excellency may reaſonably content yourſelf with ridiculing the lie, and take no farther trouble about it.

I have already done Count Paſſionei what ſervice I was able, on your Excellency's recommendation; I will this very day ſpeak again to the Marquis de Montéleon, and by Tueſday will write to the Count myſelf.

No man living can be with greater truth and zeal, my Lord, your Excellency's moſt faithful, &c.

* Appointed Ambaſſador from Spain to the Congreſs.

A Monſieur le Marquis de Montéleon.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 11me Avril, 1713.

JE ne doute point que vous ne me faſſiez la juſtice de croire que j'ai reçu l'agréable nouvelle de l'heureuſe arrivée de la flotte de Mexique, avec toute la joie que doit reſſentir un homme convaincu, comme je le ſuis, que la bonne & la mauvaiſe fortune de l'Eſpagne ſont également la bonne & la mauvaiſe fortune de la Grande Bretagne.

Votre Excellence me permettra de me ſervir de cette occaſion pour lui dire, qu'il eſt abſolument néceſſaire que nous trouvions quelque tempérament ſur l'article des Fueros des Catalans, & ſur celui de la religion dans l'Iſle de Minorque & à Gibraltar. Il ſeroit en vérité, Monſieur, trop dur, de voir une négociation, conduite juſques ici ſi heureuſement, accrochée par des bagatelles, j'oſe appeller ainſi tout ce qui arrête la concluſion de la paix entre nos deux nations.

Je vous dirai en confiance, que j'ai entretenu la Reine ſur ces points par deux repriſes, & que je l'ai trouvé, comme je m'y étois attendu, extrêmement roide, & ſur l'un & ſur l'autre. Elle croit que s'il s'agiſſoit de lui céder des places qu'elle n'avoit pas conquiſes, & dont elle n'étoit pas dans la poſſeſſion actuelle, Meſſieurs de l'Inquiſition pourroient prétendre, ſelon les coutumes d'Eſpagne, d'avoir ſur cette occaſion voix en chapitre. Mais il faut préſentement qu'on enviſage cette affaire d'un autre œil. Si le Roi d'Eſpagne fait une ceſſion formelle de l'Iſle de Minorque & de Gibraltar à la Reine, les biens, les honneurs, & les priviléges, tant eccléſiaſtiques que civiles, comme auſſi la religion Catholique, ſeront conſervés par une ſtipulation formelle, à tous les habitans des dits lieux. Si le Roi inſiſte ſur des conditions, qui obligeront la Reine de ne pas accepter la ceſſion ſuſdite, il n'y aura aucune

ſtipulation en faveur ou des eccleſiaſtiques ou des laïques, & Meſſieurs de l'Inquiſition prendront la peine de conſidérer, s'il leur convient de laiſſer les intérêts de leur religion à la diſcrétion de ceux qu'on appelle hérétiques.

La Reine entre, Monſieur, dans la conſidération de tous les égards, qu'un Roi Catholique doit avoir pour les repréſentations de la part de l'Inquiſition, & ſa Majeſté s'attend que le Roi votre maître entrera pareillement dans la conſidération de tous les égards qu'un Roi ou une Reine de la Grande Bretagne, doit avoir pour les ſentimens de ſon Parlement. En un mot, je concevrois de l'eſpérance de pouvoir faire paſſer l'article qui regarde les Catalans, par le moyen de l'expédient dont nous ſommes convenus, vous & moi, pourvu que celui de la religion ne fuſſe plus diſputé, mais que vous vous contentaſſiez de la ſtipulation générale à cet égard, qui ſe trouve dans les minutes envoyées à Madrid, & plus amplement dans le projet de traité que j'ai dreſſé en Latin, & que nous avons parcouru enſemble. Je demandrois l'excuſe de votre Excellence de vous avoir écrit une auſſi longue lettre, ſi je ne ſavois combien il eſt important de finir ſans délai, & combien il eſt impoſſible d'accommoder les différents, qui ſubſiſtent encore, ſur aucun autre pied que celui que je viens de vous inſinuer.

Je ſuis, très parfaitement,

De votre Excellence,

Le très humble, &c.

A Monſieur

A Monſieur Marſchalch.

De Whitehall, ce 14me Avril, 1713.

EN même-tems que je vous rends grâces, Monſieur, de l'honneur de votre lettre du 18me de ce mois, N.S. vous voulez bien que je me réjouiſſe auſſi avec vous de l'heureuſe concluſion d'une paix, ſi long-tems diſputée & ſi vivement oppoſée.

La ſage conduite du Roi votre maître, qui ſe fait, avec tant de raiſon, gloire de marcher ſur les traces de ſon auguſte père, n'a pas peu contribué à l'accompliſſement de ce grand ouvrage. Vous jugerez, Monſieur, aiſément de la ſatisfaction avec laquelle la Reine a vu concourir ſa Majeſté Pruſſienne dans la ſignature de la paix, par le déplaiſir que vous ſavez qu'elle a reſſenti lorſque les troupes du feu Roi ſe ſont ſéparées des ſiennes, & que la bonne correſpondance entre nos deux Cours a paru recevoir quelque atteinte.

Je ne ſuis pas véritablement en état de pouvoir vous rien promettre ſur l'article des ſubſides; ce qu'il y a de certain, c'eſt, que je ne connois perſonne qui ſoit ſi capable que vous de conduire heureuſement les affaires de votre maître, par-tout où vous ſerez employé, & particulièrement à notre cour, où vous êtes connu, &, par conſéquent, eſtimé.

Je ſuis, &c.

A Monſieur,

A Monſieur le Comte de Paſſionei.

De Whitehall, ce 14me Avril, 1713.

J'AI reçu les deux lettres que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire, & je vous prie d'être perſuadé, que ſi mon pouvoir égaloit l'inclination que je ſens de vous rendre ſervice, vous auriez bientôt raiſon d'être content ſur l'article dont il s'agit.

Je n'ai pas manqué, ſur les premières récommendations de Monſieur le Comte de Strafford, de preſſer le Marquis de Montéleon, lequel j'ai trouvé dans des diſpoſitions raiſonnables. J'ai depuis cela renouvellé, à pluſieurs repriſes, mes inſtances auprès de ce Miniſtre, & par le courier, qui doit demain partir pour l'Eſpagne, je ferai en ſorte qu'il écrira encore à ſa cour.

Je vous ſupplie, Monſieur, d'être perſuadé qu'on ne peut être plus véritablement que je le ſuis, &c.

A Monſieur Meſnager.

De Whitehall, ce 14me Avril, 1713.

VOUS ne me trouverez pas, Monſieur, j'eſpère, importun, ſi je me donne l'honneur de vous féliciter, ſur ce que vous venez de donner la dernière main à ce grand ouvrage, dont vous avez jeté les premiers fondemens.

La bonne correſpondance entre nos deux nations vient d'être rétablie par la paix, tâchons de l'augmenter, & de l'affermir par toutes ſortes de moyens.

Parmi les plaiſirs que je ſens de voir la fin de cette négociation, j'ai celui d'avoir eu, pendant ſon cours, l'occaſion de vous connoître. Je vous demande quelque part de votre ſouvenir, & je vous aſſure de mon côté que je ſerai tout ma vie, très parfaitement,

Monſieur, &c.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Verſailles, le 17me Avril, 1713.

OUBLIONS, my Lord, toutes nos peines, puiſque vos ſoins ont réuſſi, & que les traités de paix & de commerce ſe ſont enfin ſignés. C'eſt en vérité, avec une joie bien ſincère & bien véritable que je vous félicite de ce ſuccès. Le retardement impatientoit, mais je ne pouvois croire qu'une affaire dont vous vous étiez mêlé, fut en danger de ne pas réuſſir, je m'imaginois encore moins de pouvoir vous regarder jamais comme ennemi. Enfin, toute inquiétude & toute crainte ſont ceſſées, & je vous en fait encore mon compliment.

Le Roi écrit aujourd'hui à la Reine, & j'envoye la lettre à Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont; il a ordre auſſi, my Lord, de vous témoigner, de la part de ſa Majeſté, ce qu'elle penſe ſur votre ſujet. Ce ne ſera jamais au-deſſus de ce que vous méritez, & de l'idée que j'en conſerverai précieuſement toute ma vie.

La Reine ſera contente ſur les Galériens *; & je ne doute pas que le Roi

* *Lettre de Monſieur de Torcy, au Sieur Gaultier, reçue 23me Mars, 1713.*

" Le 26me Mars, 1713.

" JE puis vous informer préſentement des intentions du Roi, ſur l'article des Galériens. Vous ne vous êtes pas trompé en jugeant de l'extrême répugnance, que ſa Majeſté auroit d'entrer en aucune négociation ſur une pareille matière; elle eſt cependant ſi portée à faire plaiſir à la Reine, que j'ai vu en cette occaſion, ce que je n'aurois jamais oſé attendre. Mais avant que de vous dire ce que le Roi veut bien faire, il faut vous expliquer que la plus grande partie de ceux qui ſe donnent pour les

Roi ne le ſoit auſſi ſur les immobilia. La paix ſe fait de trop bon grâce pour craindre que les ſuites ne ſoient pas de la même parure.

Monſieur le Duc de Richmond ſera le maître de venir ici, quand il lui plaira, mais empêchez, my Lord, qu'il ne vienne ici des perſonnes auſſi dangereuſes que Madame la Ducheſſe de Richmond & Madame ſa fille; laiſſez-nous fidelles à l'Egliſe Anglicane, & comptez que le miniſtère & la philoſophie ſont de foibles armes pour réſiſter à de certaines ſéductions.

les martyres de la religion Proteſtante réformée, & qui veulent faire croire qu'ils n'ont été conduits aux galères que pour cet unique ſujet, y ſont effectivement pour avoir voulu exciter des ſéditions dans les provinces, pour des aſſemblées tumultueuſes, ou pour d'autres chefs de contraventions aux ordonnances & aux déclarations du Roi. Ce n'eſt donc pas leur zèle prétendu, mais leur déſobéiſſance qui a été la cauſe de leur malheur, & l'indulgence en ces occaſions peut avoir d'étranges ſuites. Le Roi veut bien cependant, à la demande & à la conſidération de la Reine, accorder la liberté à ceux qui ſe trouveront dans ce cas, comptant auſſi, ſuivant ce que vous m'écrivez de la part de my Lord Tréſorier, que la Reine fera dreſſer l'article 14 du traité qui regarde les immeubles, conformément à ce que le Roi a demandé, & à ce qui a été réglé par le traité de Breda, en ſemblable occaſion. Cet accord ainſi fait, il ne faut pas qu'il paroiſſe comme une condition du traité, car ce ſeroit ouvrir la porte aux demandes, que d'autres puiſſances voudroient peut-être faire, en faveur des religionaires, & que ſa Majeſté ne veut pas admettre, pour quelque conſidération que ce puiſſe être. Mais ſur la parole que je donne à my Lord Tréſorier, que j'eſpère qu'il voudra bien recevoir comme bonne; il faut qu'il faſſe envoyer l'ordre à Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury, de déclarer ici que la Reine paſſera l'article des immeubles comme le Roi l'a ſouhaité. Il eſt même néceſſaire qu'on lui envoie l'article tout dreſſé, ou tout au moins, qu'on lui inſtruiſe des clauſes qu'il doit accepter.

" Il faut en même-tems lui donner ordre, de demander à ſa Majeſté, de la part de ſa Majeſté Britannique, la liberté d'une partie des Galériens, comme vous me l'avez marqué; car il ſeroit impoſſible d'accorder cette liberté généralement à tous; il faut auſſi que ceux qu'on renverra ſortent auſſitôt du Royaume & paſſent dans les pays étrangers.

" Souvenez-vous bien, ſur toutes choſes, que cette liberté, que le Roi leur accordera, ne doit pas être une condition du traité, mais une pure grâce que le Roi leur fera à la conſidération de la Reine de la Grande Bretagne.

" En même-tems qu'elle donnera les ordres ſur ce ſujet à Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury, il ſera néceſſaire qu'elle en faſſe parler à Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont. Vous m'avez renvoyé La Vigne ſans lui en rien dire, & je ſuis perſuadé qu'il en ſera fâché, il aura même raiſon de l'être & de croire qu'on veut négocier indépendamment de lui. Comme vous aurez peut-être pris des meſures pour vous tirer de cet embarras, & qu'il ne faut pas les déranger, je dirai à La Vigne de ne pas entrer à Londres comme courier, & de vous aller trouver ſans ſe faire voir aux gens de Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont. Je ne lui écris pas même par cette voie. Je compte de renvoyer dans trois ou quatre jours un de ſes couriers arrivé ce matin, avec la fâcheuſe nouvelle de la prolongation du parlement. Ces rétardemens donnent lieu à beaucoup de mauvais diſcours, mais ce qui me fâche encore d'avantage eſt la lenteur des Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne à Utrecht, & les difficultés qu'ils font tout de nouveau ſur les articles déjà réglés, entre autres ce qui regard la reſtitution du Haut Palatinat, & le premier rang dans le Collége Electoral, à l'Electeur de Bavière, après la mort du Palatin & du Prince Charles, article dont je ſuis convenu à Fontainbleau avec my Lord Bolingbroke, & qu'il m'a laiſſé pas écrit.

" En vérité il faut que my Lord Tréſorier ne ſouffre pas davantage ces retardments, après tout ce que le Roi a fait pour avancer la paix."

Vous n'oſeriez conteſter cette vérité, vous qui êtes Miniſtre, & que j'ai trouvé beaucoup plus philoſophe que je ne l'ai jamais été. Il eſt vrai que vous avez augmenté le goût que j'avois de le devenir, mais il me faudroit encore quelques-unes de vos leçons, & j'en profiterois pour l'envie que j'ai de vous plaire, & de vous marquer, my Lord, qu'on ne peut être avec un attachement plus ſincère,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

Comme je crois l'Abbé Gaultier parti, je prie Matthieu de mettre une lettre dans ſon paquet.

De Monſieur de Torcy *.*

A Verſailles, le 17me Avril, 1713.

J'AI reçu Monſieur, par Monſieur le Baron de Walef, la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 16me Décembre, V.S.

La récommendation que vous lui donnez, Monſieur, étoit une raiſon bien forte pour m'obliger à le ſervir en tout ce qui pouvoit dépendre de moi; mais vous avez contribué vous-même à détruire ce que vous vouliez faire pour lui, en travaillant, auſſi utilement que vous avez fait, à la paix qui vient de ſe conclure.

Le Roi va ſonger à réformer des troupes, plutôt que d'en augmenter le nombre, & par conſéquent il eſt impoſſible de faire entrer Monſieur le Baron de Walef au ſervice de ſa Majeſté, nonobſtant les bons témoignages que vous lui rendez †.

* Received by Baron Walef.

† Her Majeſty gave him a letter for 500l. upon the Iriſh eſtabliſhment, on his return to this country.

J'ai fait ce que j'ai pu pour engager l'Electeur de Bavière à le prendre à ſon ſervice, mais les diſpoſitions qu'il a faites ne le lui ont pas permis. Si je n'ai pas réuſſi, Monſieur, je vous ſupplie de croire, que je n'en ai pas moins d'envie de vous plaire, & de vous marquer en toutes occaſions qu'on ne peut être plus véritablement & plus parfaitement que je ſuis,

Monſieur, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce 15me Avril, 1713.

J'AI déjà oublié, Monſieur, les peines que j'ai priſes, & qui auroient été beaucoup plus grandes, ſi vous ne m'aviez, pendant tout le cours de cette négociation, protégé par votre droiture, & inſtruit par vos lumières.

Mais je n'oublierai jamais le plaiſir & l'avantage deſquels je ſuis redévables aux longueurs & aux difficultés de notre grand ouvrage, le plaiſir de vous avoir vu, & l'avantage de pouvoir copier ſur votre exemple. Je vous félicite, Monſieur, du fond de mon cœur du ſuccès du traité, & je ne doute point que vos Whigs ne ſoient préſentement revenus de leurs préjugés ; pour les nôtres, ils ſont incurables.

Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont m'a fait part de l'honneur dont le Roi a bien voulu me combler, en daignant regarder favorablement les ſervices que j'ai tâché de rendre. Oſerois-je, Monſieur, aſſurer ſa Majeſté de la parfaite reconnoiſſance dont je ſuis pénétré, & du profond reſpect avec lequel je ſerai toujours dévoué à ſon ſervice ?

Comme les Ambaſſadeurs de la Reine, qui ſont au Congrès, ne m'ont rien mandé depuis quelque tems, ſur les intérêts du Duc de St. Pierre, je leur écris de nouveau ſur ce ſujet, par ordre de ſa Majeſté ; je les exhorte à

exercer

exercer tout leur zèle, & à déployer tout leur ſavoir-faire dans cette occaſion, & je les fais ſentir qu'ils doivent s'attendre avoir la Reine très mécontente de leur conduite, s'ils agiſſent, ſous quelque prétexte que ce ſoit, autrement.

Monſieur de Richmond ſe prépare à partir, mais la Ducheſſe & ſa fille reſteront ici, puiſque vous craignez leurs ſéductions. En France la beauté peut être dangereuſe, dans un climat auſſi péſant, & parmi un peuple auſſi phlégmatique que le nôtre, elle eſt néceſſaire.

Je ne me ſuis jamais piqué d'être grand philoſophe, mais je vous avoue que je ſuis tenté d'avoir quelque bonne opinion de moi-même, quand je réfléchis ſur l'amitié dont vous m'honorez, ſur l'eſtime très parfaite que je ſens pour votre mérite, & ſur l'attachement inviolable avec lequel je ſuis, &c.

B.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

Ce 18me Avril, 1713.

COMME l'Abbé Gaultier n'eſt pas encore parti, je le chargerai d'une ſeconde lettre, pour vous remercier, Monſieur, de l'attention que vous avez donné aux repréſentations de Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury, au ſujet de la déclaration, qu'il a demandé ſur les exceptions contenues dans l'article 9me du traité de commerce. C'eſt une nouvelle preuve de la bonne foi, qui a régnée pendant tout le cours de cette négociation, & qui eſt trop bien établie, pour ne pas ſubſiſter après la paix.

J'ai entendu avec beaucoup de plaiſir la nouvelle grâce que le Roi vient de faire à l'Abbé Gaultier. En vérité, Monſieur, ſa conduite a mérité cette diſtinction: on ne peut pas ſervir le maître avec plus de zèle que lui, & j'oſe avancer que la connoiſſance qu'il a de ce pays, auſſi-bien que la

confiance que ceux qui ſont dans les affaires ont en lui, le mettent en état d'être fort util, dans toutes les occaſions, où il s'agira de négocier chez nous pour le ſervice du Roi *.

Le Marquis de Montéleon ſe prépare pour paſſer en Hollande. Je crois qu'il eſt content de nous, puiſqu'il a trouvé aſſez de facilité dans les choſes eſſentielles. Je vous avoue, Monſieur, que nous n'en avons pas trouvé de même, dans de certains points, qui ne ſont d'aucune conſéquence au Roi Catholique, & qui ne laiſſent pas d'être importans à la Reine, par rapport aux engagemens qu'elle a pris, à la conjoncture du tems & à la conſtitution de notre Gouvernment.

Je me trompe fort ſi le Marquis de Montéleon ne penſe pas ſur ce ſujet tout comme moi,

Je ſuis, Monſieur,

Votre, &c.

B.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, April 11th, 1713, N.S.

I VERY lately received the honour of a letter from your Lordſhip, of the 20th, O.S. with her Majeſty's commands to countenance the pretenſions of the Chevalier d'Aubigny. I informed myſelf of that gentleman, in what I could be uſeful to him at this Court, and underſtand from him, he pretends to an *Abaye*; I trouble your Lordſhip with this letter, in order to be informed, whether it be her Majeſty's pleaſure, I ſhould make uſe of

* Pending this negociation, the French Miniſters intended to appoint a perſon of greater conſequence, and of a higher rank in life, to ſuperſede Gaultier; but the latter had given ſo much ſatisfaction to the Britiſh Miniſter, and had conducted himſelf with ſuch propriety, that Torcy was entreated to continue him.

her

her name to the Miniſters here upon this occaſion? in which caſe, I make no queſtion but the gentleman will be ſucceſsful, and conclude her Majeſty is well informed of his character. The gentleman is entirely a ſtranger to me; I ſhall wait your anſwer, and govern myſelf according to the orders I receive in it.

I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

I came from Verſailles this morning, when there was little hope of the Duke d'Alenzon's life.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Verſailles, April 18th, 1713, N.S.

I AM to acknowledge the honour of a letter from you, begun the 28th, and ended the 30th of March. I am of your Lordſhip's opinion, that in caſe ſome points, yet undecided, had been ſooner ſtarted, they might with more eaſe have been accommodated; as to the Elector of Bavaria's intereſt, the infractions of the treaty of Ilmerſheim do not only relate to the furniture and other goods at Munich *, but to the annual revenue to be paid for the ſupport of the Electreſs and her family, as your Lordſhip will ſee more particularly by the treaty itſelf.

And as to the affairs of Italy, I am glad to tell you, that I found this Court in ſuch a diſpoſition, as I hope is agreeable to her Majeſty's intentions; I have writ more fully upon this ſubject to the Earl of

* The Capital of Bavaria.

Dartmouth,

Dartmouth, but your Lordſhip will know by this incloſed paper *, (which I have likewiſe ſent to him) the reſult of what has paſſed between Monſieur de Torcy and myſelf on this head; the reflection you will make upon it, is, that this Court has conſented to all you deſired, and ſeems very far from affecting any delay in concluding the peace with the Emperor.

Monſieur Gaſper d'Aubigny, ſignifying to me, that he was contented I ſhould recommend him in general terms to this Court, I have done ſo, as well by letter as by diſcourſe with Monſieur de Torcy; but I muſt own to you, I was a little embarraſſed to know what I ſhould ſay in his favour, as from her Majeſty, that ought to engage the King to take care of him.

When Mr. Arbuthnot, who is now at Rouen, comes hither, I will endeavour to render Mr. Churchill all the ſervice I can.

Having nothing farther in charge from your Lordſhip, I have only to add, that I congratulate you upon the peace, which is, I confeſs, as general as I could have expected it, unleſs it had conſiſted with her Majeſty's affairs, to have attended the Emperor's reſolutions ſome time longer; and as it is, I am glad to find his difficulties ſo far removed, as may engage him to come in upon good terms within the time preſcribed. I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

* *Propoſition faite de la part de Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de France, à Utrecht.*

" Les états & places d'Italie qui ne dépendent point du royaume de Naples, ni du Duché de Milan, ſeront remis à ceux à qui ils appartiennent légitimpement."

Avec Monſieur de Torcy, Avril 5-16, 1713.

" Les points qui regardent Mantua, Mirandole, Caſtillone, Comachio, &c. ne doivent pas retarder la concluſion de la paix, entre la maiſon d'Autriche & la France; mais après la ſignature du traité on conviendra d'une ville en Italie, où des Plénipotentiaires qui ſerout nommés pour cet effet, tant de la part de ſa Majeſté Impériale, que de celle des autres parties intéreſſées, ſe rendront, & dans telle ville ils diſcuteront & conviendront de ce qui pourra appartenir à chacun.

" Les quatre places ſur les côtes de la Toſcane ſont centées d'appartenir à la maiſon d'Autriche."

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

My Lord,

Verſailles, April 24th, 1713, N.S.

AS ſoon as I had received your letter, of the 8th inſtant, O.S. I went to Verſailles; and upon ſhowing Monſieur de Torcy the paper of the 18th November, 1711, as explanatory to the Latin expreſſions in the 9th article of commerce, relating to the ſpecies, he laid that whole affair this morning before the King in Council; and upon it his Majeſty has conſented, that the article ſhall be underſtood and explained according to the paper you ſent, and in the very terms*:

* " *Declaration Act concerning the four ſpecies agreed to by his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, April 24th, 1713, N.S.*

" Notum ſit omnibus, quod cum in articulo nono tractatus navigationis & commerciorum inter Sereniſſimam Reginam Magnæ Britanniæ, & Sereniſſimum Regem Chriſtianiſſimum, per Majeſtatum ſuarum Legatos Extraordinarios & Plenipotentiarios, concluſi; quædam mercimonia, viz. laniſicia, ſaccharum, piſces ſaliti, et quæ ex cætis proveniunt, verbis generalibus ex tariffæ die 18 menſis Septembris, anni 1664, factæ regulâ excipiuntur, commiſſariorum poſtea diſcuſſioni remittenda. Quo igitur omnis error & dubitatio evitentur, quæ ex terminis adeò generalibus forſitan oriri poſſint, certiuſque conſtet de quibus ſpeciatim mercimoniis deliberatio inter prædictos commiſſarios habenda eſt; nos infrà ſcripti Legati Extraordinârii et Plenipotentiarii hiſce declaravimus et declaramus mercimoniorum memoratorum exceptionem intelligendam eſſe ſecundum ſpecificationem uberiùs factam in ſcripto quodam 18 die Novembris, anni 1711 dato, et in Magnam Britanniam ab aulâ prædicti Regis Chriſtianiſſimi tum temporis tranſmiſſo cujus tenor ſequitur:

" *Reſtrictions qu'il eſt néceſſaire d'apporter en accordant le tarif de* 1664, *aux Hollandois.*

" 1. La Baleine coupée & apprêtée, les fanons & les huiles de Baleine, payeront à toutes les entrées du royaume les droits portés par le tarif du 7me Décembre, 1699.

" 2. Les draps, ratines, & ſerges, ſeront ſujets aux mêmes droits du tarif du 7me Décembre, 1699; & pour en faciliter le commerce, il ſera permis de les faire entrer par St. Valery ſur Somme, par Rouen, & par Bourdeaux (1), où ces étoffes ſeront ſujettes à la viſite, de la même manière que celles qui ſe fabriquent dans le royaume.

" 3. Les Hollandois ne pourront apporter dans le royaume, que le poiſſon ſalé en baril, & il ſera levé à toutes les entrées du royaume, pays, terres, de l'obéiſſance du Roi, même des ports francs, les droits d'abord & de conſommation, ordonnés avant le tarif de 1664, & en outre 40 livres par leth, compoſé de douze barils, peſant 300lb. chacun pour le droit d'entrée, laquelle entrée ne ſera permiſe que par St. Valery ſur Somme, Rouen, Nantes, Libourne, & Bourdeaux, & demeurera interdite par les autres havres ou ports tant de la Mer Océane, que de la Méditerranée.

" 4. Le ſucre raffiné en pain ou en poudre; candis, blanc, & brun, payera les droits portés par le tarif du 7me Décembre, 1699.

" Le 18me Novembre, 1711."

" In quorum fidem," &c.

(1) " N. Que l'entrée de ces marchandiſes n'étoit permiſe que par Calais & St. Valery ſur Somme."

and

and Monſieur de Torcy will this evening ſend orders to Utrecht, that their Plenipotentiaries may ſign it with ours, in the manner you deſire. I likewiſe, juſt now, diſpatch a meſſenger to our Lords at Utrecht, with the like advice. I cannot but obſerve to you, that this Court agreed the thing in the faireſt and openeſt manner poſſible.

As to the acts of ceſſion, Monſieur de Torcy will likewiſe give the neceſſary directions, that their Plenipotentiaries ſhall be furniſhed with them; but the ratification of their treaty with her Majeſty is already diſpatched to Utrecht.

Our laſt letters from Madrid ſay, that Mr. Gilligan and Lord Lexington himſelf are ill. When Mr. Gilligan comes hither, I will haſten him away as faſt as I can; except you may judge his ſtay here, in regulating the aſſiento affair, more neceſſary; in which caſe I deſire your directions: but if he comes before I hear from you, I will diſpatch him to you.

The Swediſh Miniſter gave me this paper for news; it ſeems not much of a piece with what was printed in our Gazette. By his diſcourſe with me, I perceive he is apprehenſive that we in England are of late grown very cool in our diſpoſition towards ſaving his maſter; I could only anſwer him in general terms, not knowing particularly what is intended in relation to the Northern intereſt.

The 1ſt of June will be here ſo ſoon, and you have ſo many other things in the mean time to think of, that I believe it proper to remind you, that we ſhould immediately endeavour to remove any obſtacle that may yet remain to the Emperor's coming in. The Mareſchals Harcourt and Bezons have orders to march towards Germany; and the minute after the expiration of the term, the French will, as I am aſſured, begin to demoliſh Briſac and Fort Kehl: the effect of all this is, that I think it for every body's intereſt that the peace be now

general, to which, after the time once elapſed, many hindrances, yet unforeſeen, will unavoidably ariſe.

I have not failed very frequently to ſolicit Monſieur de Torcy in behalf of the Ducheſs Hamilton's affairs: I find the lawyers here make ſome objections to that claim, of which I have this morning acquainted Lord Selkirk; I hope he will be able to refute them; and in the whole he ſhall have my beſt aſſiſtance.

I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Verſailles, April 24th, 1713. N.S.

I AM glad to have had ſo good ſucceſs in ſetting right the difficulties, which you apprehended might have riſen, in reference to the ninth article of commerce, as I wrote in my other letter: I muſt own to your Lordſhip, that in every thing relating to her Majeſty, this Court has hitherto acted with as much fairneſs as could be expected; which I take as a juſt argument that we are obliged to uſe them in the like manner; I have not yet heard from Lord Treaſurer, ſo that I have been able to ſay nothing to theſe Miniſters concerning the *bona immobilia*, which, I conclude, they who you know are ſo punctual, do a little wonder at. I deſire you would put her Majeſty and the Lord Treaſurer in mind of this affair; ſince in it, I have reaſon to believe, this Court expects a good deal of candour and generoſity on her Majeſty's part; and the rather becauſe they think that expectation grounded upon a national juſtice.

I find Monſieur de Torcy and his family, are by every poſt from Utrecht more alarmed, that the Duke de St. Pierre's intereſt is not effectually

tually ſuſtained there; they would own it as a great obligation, that her Majeſty would be pleaſed to repeat her orders to her Plenipotentiaries to that effect; your Lordſhip knows, as well as I, that Monſieur de Torcy's behaviour towards our nation, may juſtly entitle his relations to her Majeſty's protection.

I am glad to hear of my Lord Chancellor's promotion * and more ſo of his recovery, and good ſtate of health. Count Maffei, I hear, goes into England, to thank her Majeſty for Sicily, in his maſter's name; if the Queen returns the compliment, may not Mr. Prior make ſuch an excurſion from hence, and be here again ſoon enough to receive your orders? I think it is what he would like; I know I ought in form to propoſe this to the other office, therefore pray let me not be named.

I am, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

April 19, 1713.

HAVING been every day in expectation of Abbé Gaultier's departure for ſome time, I am now to acknowledge your Grace's letters of the 18th and 24th together.

On the head of infraction of the treaty of Ilmerſheim, nothing more needs be ſaid from hence, at leaſt yet awhile; I find by letters from Utrecht, that the Dutch ſeemed extremely deſirous, and the Imperialiſts willing to have the arbitration of theſe diſputes, between the Emperor and

* Sir Simon Harcourt, Knt.; made Lord Keeper, October 9th, 1710; created Lord Harcourt, September 3rd, 1712; made Lord Chancellor, April 7th, 1713.

the

the Elector of Bavaria, referred to her Majeſty ſingly, and to have a term fixed, as well for the commencement, as for the determination of the diſcuſſion and deciſion of this affair; if this propoſal ſhould be accepted on all hands, one might hope for a ſpeedy and happy concluſion of what I am afraid will otherwiſe continue a long time unſettled.

The propoſition of the French Miniſters concerning Italy, with Monſieur de Torcy's explanation thereof, dated 16th of April, ſeems indeed, to anſwer her Majeſty's intentions, and to clear the French Court from the ſuſpicion of effecting any delay in concluding the peace with the Emperor. The only obſervation which was made in council was upon the laſt paragraph in the paper which your Grace tranſmitted both to my Lord Dartmouth and me: *Les quatre places ſur les côtes de la Toſcane ſont cenſées d'appartenir á la Maiſon d'Autriche.*

The Queen thinks that there is here ſome ambiguity, which ought to be removed; theſe places have been *cenſées d'appartenir à la maiſon d'Autriche* ever ſince the Queen ſpoke to her Parliament in June laſt, and communicated the terms of peace, which were at that time offered by France. It ſhould therefore be underſtood, that theſe places are to be yielded to the Emperor as ſoon as his peace with France and Spain is concluded, and that he is not to be kept out of poſſeſſion of them until the Italian intereſts are adjuſted.

I believe I writ to your Grace formerly all that I had to ſay, or that I knew concerning Monſieur Gaſpar d'Aubigny; he had been uſeful to the late Duke of Hamilton, and on that account the Queen would have been glad, if any proviſion might have been made for him in France; but your Grace will judge that it is not her Majeſty's deſign to lay ſo great a weight on this matter, as to have it be ſet like an obligation to her account.

Your Grace's letter of the 24th, was very welcome, and the Queen concurs with your Grace in thinking (which you will pleaſe likewiſe to expreſs

expreſs where it may be proper) that the Court of France agreed to the declaratory article, tranſmitted in my letter of the 8th inſtant, O.S. in the faireſt manner and with the beſt grace.

By a letter of the 25th of April, N.S. which I juſt now received from Utrecht, I am informed that my Lords her Majeſty's Ambaſſadors had propoſed the ſame thing to the Plenipotentiaries of France, who made a difficulty, without freſh orders, of complying; it is therefore very happy that thoſe orders were ſo quickly diſpatched to them, ſince there will be little or no delay by this means, in exchanging the ratifications after thoſe, which my brother carried from hence, arrive. I muſt own to your Grace that I look on the gaining of this point as a very important advantage, though my Lords at Utrecht are of opinion that the matter was ſo very plain before, as to make it indifferent in what words it was expreſſed. Your Grace will ſee in a little time, that the explanation now obtained, will not only gain great advantage to us in the ſettlement of our trade, but will likewiſe entirely enhance the merit of our treaty of commerce, and obviate thoſe very objections which the people, who were prepared to be angry, expect to have it in their power to make, and for the adding the greater ſtrength to which, the ſame people have been preparing the way, by meetings in the City, and by petitions to her Majeſty, from thoſe concerned in the woollen manufactures, in the plantation trade, &c.

It will be expedient, that the articles of ceſſion ſhould, without loſs of time, be diſpatched to Utrecht, and delivered to her Majeſty's Miniſters; I will only mention one reaſon to your Grace upon this head: the fiſhing ſeaſon is already begun, Nicholſon is ready to go with thoſe troops, which are to take poſſeſſion of Newfoundland; and I think it would be a blot, which might be fairly hit, if we ſhould loſe, even this ſeaſon, the advantage of that which the Queen has a right to call her own, from the exchange of the ratifications.

I am

I am ſorry my Lord Lexington and Mr. Gilligan are ill; the latter will be very much wanted here, and I believe he has, before this time, diſpatched all that remained for him to do at Madrid. I will take care that he ſhall find, on his arrival at Paris, inſtructions in what manner to treat with the French Guinea Company, if he ſhall not have finiſhed that affair with their agents in Spain, whither I think the petition of this Company to the Moſt Chriſtian King, was ſome time ago referred.

The Duc d'Aumont has put into my hands, a memorial, whereby the French merchants, who are concerned in the aſſiento, deſire, under pretence of fetching their factors and effects home, permiſſion to ſend three ſhips, one to the coaſt of Caraca, which afterwards is to make a trading voyage to Carthagena, Porto Bello, and the Havanna, and two others to carry ſlaves on account of our Company from the coaſt of Guinea to Buenos Ayres, and from thence to bring back a great quantity of hides which they pretend lay at that place upon their hands. Your Grace will obſerve that theſe propoſitions can never be accepted, ſince they are directly repugnant to what has been agreed with France, and formally ſtipulated with Spain; the utmoſt which can be done in favour of the French Guinea Company, is to have a fair valuation made of all their effects in the Weſt Indies, which they may be deſirous to diſpoſe of there, to oblige our merchants to buy theſe, and to bring home the remainder of their goods and their factors and ſervants who are in the ſeveral *comptoirs* at a moderate price, to be ſettled per ton and per head.

I wiſh the news which the Swediſh Miniſter communicated to your Grace may prove true; we have no certain accounts from thoſe parts freſher than the 8th and 9th of February, and thoſe were of a very different hue.

Monſieur Cronſtrom thinks we are grown cool in our diſpoſition towards ſaving his maſter; and I can aſſure your Grace that the Duke

d'Aumont is very warm, in his ſuſpicions that we are entered into meaſures with the Northern allies, the States-General, and ſeveral Princes of the Empire, for impoſing a peace on Sweden, and for parcelling out their dominions on this ſide of the Baltic. I have frequently aſſured the latter, and I believe it will be proper that your Grace ſhould ſpeak in the ſame ſtyle, that her Majeſty has entered into no engagements whatſoever, relating to the affairs of the North, but what are public, that is to ſay, ſhe has entered into none ſince the guaranty given for the neutrality of the Empire; and the parties concerned, may very eaſily judge from her precaution in taking meaſures to relieve Sweden, in this article of diſtreſs, that ſhe will not be very forward to aſſiſt thoſe, who have profited too much already of their enemy's misfortunes and obſtinacy, and who have carried their ſucceſs farther than is conſiſtent with the general intereſt of Europe.

It is neceſſary upon this occaſion, I believe, that I ſhould acquaint your Grace with what I imagine is the true reaſon why the Swedes think us cool towards them. A deduction has been prepared, of the ſeveral obligations which her Majeſty lies under to the Northern powers, of their reciprocal obligations to her and to each other, and of the ſeveral ſteps which have been made by the parties concerned, contrary to their ſeveral obligations: the reſult of this is, that the Queen appears to be much more a free agent, than the Princes of the North, and particularly the King of Sweden, would have her think herſelf; an end will ſurely be put to that practice, of which I have ſeen too many inſtances, of calling on her Majeſty to make good engagements, the conditions whereof were broke by the very perſons who demanded the execution of them.

Many overtures have, within theſe two years, come to her Majeſty's hands, concerning ſchemes for the peace of the North, and particularly ſome of thoſe propoſals (which I hear have been ſince publiſhed in a

Haerlem Gazette) whereat the Swediſh and French Miniſters appear equally alarmed; but your Grace may very ſafely affirm, that the Queen has treated on none of them, and the only ſtep her Majeſty has hitherto made, has been to call on thoſe powers, who are parties to the ſame guaranties with her, to conſider how far the obligations of guaranties extend, and to concert meaſures for the joint-execution of what ſhall appear to be binding. What anſwer the Queen will receive, I cannot tell, but I hope her Majeſty will not advance in this affair, unleſs thoſe, who are equally engaged by treaty, and more concerned in intereſt, keep an equal pace with her.

The Queen enters into your Grace's ſentiments, as to the neceſſity of endeavouring to remove any obſtacle, that may yet remain, in the way of the Emperor's peace; ſhe has already done all in her power towards eaſing the difficulty, on which the Imperial Miniſters broke off, and will continue to do the ſame, as other opportunities offer themſelves; but indeed, my Lord, ſhould the Court of Vienna be tempted to let the term of the firſt of June lapſe, they muſt lay at their own door, and cannot lay at the Queen's, the ill conſequences which may follow, ſome of which your Grace mentions. I hear that the Imperial Miniſters think, that the neutrality of Italy, giving them nothing to do on one ſide, and the ceſſion of the Low Countries, nothing to do on the other, by which means there can be no ſcene of action between France and them, but on the Rhine, they may venture another campaign. They imagine that the 24,000 Imperialiſts, which are marching from Flanders, the evacuation of Catalonia, the draught of troops from Italy, and the contingent of the Princes of the Empire, added to the force which they have already on the Rhine, will form ſuch an army, as may oblige the French to give them better conditions; at worſt, they think, if any ill event happens, the four Circles may ſuffer, but the Emperor's dominions will not be expoſed. This is a very gay ſcheme, and the

Court of Vienna is very eaſily dazzled with the appearances of things. I cannot, however, perſuade myſelf, that the Emperor will act upon it; I rather hope, Sinzendorf will return to Utrecht, and come to a compoſition on the two laſt diſputed articles, the treaty of Ilmerſheim, and the affairs of Italy; wherein the French muſt continue reaſonable, and all may be ended.

It is with great pleaſure that I take this opportunity of making my congratulations and compliments to your Grace, on the happy concluſion of a peace, never more neceſſary, and never more oppoſed.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewſbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, April 19th, 1713, O.S.

NOTWITHSTANDING the length of my other diſpatch, I muſt take the liberty of troubling your Grace with a ſeparate letter, to acknowledge the honour of thoſe in your own hand, of the 11th, 18th, and 24th, N.S.

I can ſay nothing more than I have already ſaid concerning d'Aubigny; Duke Hamilton had ſolicited the Queen to recommend him, after his death, others of the family made the ſame application, which produced the letter I had the honour to write to your Grace. I take the Queen's ſenſe to be, that if any preferment can be obtained for him, without intereſting her too far in his behalf, ſhe will be glad of it; but her Majeſty does not deſire to have her name very directly uſed, nor the thing inſiſted upon as a formal requeſt. If Lord Selkirk ſhould fail in his other negociations, he may, perhaps, ſucceed in this.

The Queen is entirely of the ſentiment your Grace expreſſes in yours of the 18th, concerning the acts of renunciation, and has therefore no farther directions to give on that head.

I much wonder that your Grace has received no letter from Lord Treaſurer, about the *bona immobilia*, ſince he perſiſts to ſay that he writ to you; be that as it will, your Grace will pleaſe to aſſure the King and Miniſters, that the ſubjects of France may expect, from the Queen, the treatment they deſire in this reſpect, and that her Majeſty makes no doubt but the King will on his part ſhow the indulgence deſired by her to the Proteſtants who are in the galleys. I have ſpoke of this matter lately to the Duke d'Aumont, upon a hint which I met with in a letter from Monſieur de Torcy to Gaultier.

I have talked with the Queen, and with Lord Treaſurer, concerning that very neceſſary article, which you are pleaſed, my Lord, to mention, of a Miniſter to ſucceed the Duke d'Aumont at our Court. They both ſeemed to have no other thought but this, that the perſon ſent hither, ought to be in the confidence of Monſieur de Torcy. This undoubtedly is right, but I would take leave to add, that I could wiſh he were rather of the character of Envoyé than of Ambaſſador, ſince it is certain, that we can more eaſily find one to fit the former than the latter.

I proteſt to your Grace, and I dare ſay you will believe me, that nothing has been omitted here to work up our Miniſters at Utrecht, to act with zeal in the Duke of St. Pierre's cauſe, and ſince your laſt advertiſement, I have again wrote to my Lords, in the ſtrongeſt terms I am able to dictate. My Lord Treaſurer has told me that he will do the ſame, and I hope he will not forget the promiſe. Your Grace may with great truth aſſure Monſieur de Torcy, and the Croiſſy family, that the Queen does really, on their account, take this matter very much to heart, and that there is no expedient, which they can think

proper,

proper, which her Majeſty will not convert into a poſitive order to her ſervants.

I ſpoke to Lord Treaſurer about Matt's journey to Turin, which is a very kind thought, and every way proper: my Lord ſeemed to be of the ſame mind, and I hope to be able, by the next opportunity, to tell your Grace that he has ſhown he is ſo.

It is impoſſible to conclude this letter without once more congratulating your Grace on the happy concluſion of the peace. Indeed, my Lord, when I reflect on the difficulties, and diſadvantages of all kinds, which influenced the negociation, I cannot help ſaying, "it is the Lord's work, and it is marvellous in our eyes."

Our Seſſion is begun, and I am perſuaded will proceed, as I had the honour to foretel your Grace; the ſpirit among the well-affected keeps up, and their numbers increaſe; the others, clamour and ſtruggle, but in my opinion, very unpopularly, and much more to our advantage than their own.

Surely, my Lord, without any affectation of being wiſer than one's betters, a man may ſay, that the Queen has it now in her power to eſtabliſh ſuch a plan, as ſhe may purſue for the reſt of her reign, and as thoſe, who wiſh well to their country, have long deſired to ſee.

No man living is with truer reſpect and zeal, my Lord Duke,

Your Grace's, &c.

A Madame la Marquiſe de Croiſſy.

De Whitehall, ce 19me Avril, 1713.

JE ſuis ravi, Madame, de ſavoir que vous avez été contente de la montre, que je me ſuis donné l'honneur de vous envoyer par Monſieur de Vertou.

Il n'y a rien que je chercherois avec plus d'empreſſement, que les occaſions de vous plaire; chacun eſt util dans ce monde ſelon ſa capacité, & l'on peut avoir quelque degré de mérite même dans les bagatelles.

J'eſpère, Madame, que vous êtes convaincu que j'ai tâché d'en avoir dans une affaire d'importance, je veux dire dans celle de Monſieur le Duc de St. Pierre. Les ordres de la Reine ont été renouvellés à Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires, depuis peu de jours, dans des termes les plus forts & les plus précis ſur ce ſujet. Je veux eſpérer que les effets répondront aux meſures qui ont été priſes, ce qu'il y a de certain, c'eſt que, de mon côté, je ne négligerai rien, qui puiſſe contribuer à la réuſſite des prétenſions de ceux, qui ont l'honneur de vous appartenir, étant, avec un profond reſpect,

Madame, votre, &c.

A l'Evêque de Montpélier.

De Whitehall, ce 19me Avril, 1713.

PERMETTEZ-moi, Monſieur, de me ſervir de l'occaſion que le retour de l'Abbé Gaultier en France me fournit, pour vous faire reſſouvenir d'un homme, ſur le cœur duquel votre mérite & vos bontés ont fait des impreſſions, qui ne pourront jamais s'effacer.

J'ai vu le gentilhomme dont vous m'avez recommandé les intérêts, & j'ai tâché de lui rendre tous les ſervices, qui dépendoient de moi. Comme il ne s'eſt addreſſé depuis quelque tems à moi, j'eſpère que ſon procès aura été terminé, de la manière qu'il l'a ſouhaité.

J'aurai l'honneur de vous envoyer dans peu le Céſar que je vous ai promis, & je me flatte que dans toutes les occaſions, où je ſerai aſſez heureux pour pouvoir vous être bon à quelque choſe, vous vous ſervirez

de

de moi comme d'un homme qui vous eſt entièrement acquis, & qui ſera toute ſa vie très parfaitement,

Monſieur, &c.

From Mr. Prior.

My Lord,

Paris, April 8th, 1713.

THE Duke of Shrewſbury ſends your Lordſhip the ſtate of our affairs in Spain, to which I hope our own in England will ſo far correſpond, as to open ſoon to us the ſcenes of an honourable peace and a good Parliament: I hope I ſhall have my Lord Treaſurer's orders, and your opinion, as to my own particular or public figure. Theſe people, who you know are curious and impertinent enough upon ſuch heads, begin to queſtion me ſo cloſely, that I ſometimes wiſh I knew how to turn the diſcourſe: upon the whole, I am aſhamed to trouble you, my dear Lord, any farther, and I will write of it more to Dartmouth. I have again intereſted all our friends, Monſieur de Torcy particularly, in behalf of poor Monſieur Calendrini; I hope I ſhall do him ſervice; and, in every thing that can relate to you, approve myſelf moſt truly, &c.

M. Prior.

To his Grace the Duke of Shrewſbury.

(With Montaigne's Eſſays; incloſed in the above letter.)

Dictate, O mighty Judge, what thou haſt ſeen,
Of cities and of courts, of books and men,
And deign to let thy ſervant hold the pen.

Through

Through ages thus I might preſume to live,
And from the tranſcript of thy proſe receive
What my own ſhort-liv'd verſe can never give.

Thus ſhould fair Britain, with a gracious ſmile,
Receive the work; the venerable iſle,
For more than treaties made, ſhould bleſs my toil.

Nor longer hence the Gallic ſtyle preferr'd,
Wiſdom in Engliſh idiom ſhould be heard,
While Shrewſbury told the world where Montaigne err'd.

——Are they good?

What think you of an oak, which is Britain; a trophy of arms at the bottom of it; a wreath of palm, hung on the tree; over the trophy—*innumeris potior.*

From Mr. Prior.

My Lord,

Verſailles, April 7th-18th, 1713.

I AM, you may be ſure, extremely glad, that, by what the Duke of Shrewſbury writes in anſwer to your public orders, the affairs of Italy, in relation to the Emperor's intereſts, are conſented to by this Court, in the manner you deſire: I cannot thank you enough for your explanatory letter upon that head, without which, I doubt, we ſhould not have been able to ſend you ſo plain and good an account.

I am, and will be, directed by the private word of advice you gave me, the 26th paſt, in relation to my affair of figure; the Duke of Shrewſbury thinks it very right. I congratulate you moſt ſincerely upon the birth of your beautiful daughter, the peace, after all the pangs you have for ſo long time ſuffered, from the ignorance of ſome of our Engliſh men-midwives.

The preſent to Madame de Croiſſy is the fineſt thing I ever ſaw, and ſhe thinks ſo. I am in haſte—the meſſenger juſt going. If I had more time, what ſignifies it?—it is impoſſible for me to ſay how much I love you, and impertinent to tell you how much I am obliged to you.

Send Barton over to me, Madame de Croiſſy will have it ſo, and Monſieur de Torcy; the fellow has ſuffered a good deal for one fault; his bones were broke in France, and his heart, he ſays, will break if he does not come back to the entry. Adieu. See poor D. Shelton, and comfort him:

———*Nam deſluit ætas*
Et pelagi patiens, & caſſidis, atque ligonis.

Not only ſo, but remember Lord Treaſurer of him; for your goodneſs to me muſt not be confined to my perſon only. God bleſs you: adieu.

I have writ to your brother Dartmouth an account of naval cauſes and prizes, and paſſports, in a long letter, which, if you ſee, help to clear or to condemn me.

M. Prior.

To Mr. Prior.

Whitehall, April 20th, 1713.

BY the fat prieſt, who returns to France to take poſſeſſion of another ſinecure, I acknowledge, dear Mat, the favour of your laſt, of the 18th.

You have ſtood us in great ſtead at Paris, not only in the buſineſs of Italy, but in that very important point, for ſuch I muſt think it, of the four excepted ſpecies.

I am glad the eclairciſſements, which I endeavoured to give my Lord Duke of Shrewſbury were of uſe; I know enough of the ſuperiority of his genius, and the candour of his temper, to be free from all apprehenſion, that he would blame me for being too officious out of my department, or too nice in it; and therefore, took upon me to write fully to him concerning the two articles above mentioned.

There are thoſe in the world who, I believe, think me troubleſome; but I have the ſatisfaction, in my turn, of knowing them to be ignorant.

I am confirmed that the advice I gave you, about your own affairs, was right, and am glad you follow it. I am apt to think you may be ſent to Turin, I own I am mightily fond of the project. But this is one of thoſe *arcana imperii noſtri*, about which, I dare not affirm any thing poſitive.

The peace is made, and I thank your friendſhip for the compliment upon it.

I have acquired ſome experience, and that is all I expect, beſides the public advantage, to gain by it. I have learned that one ſhould never deſpair, and that perſeverance will make amends for many defects in meaſures and in conduct. I have learned that, in Britain at leaſt, doing

ing little is better than doing much, and doing nothing is better than either.

I will remember my Lord Treaſurer of Dick Sheldon, for whom I have a great deal of eſteem, and I wiſh my offices may be of uſe to him.

Barton ſhall go back, but, indeed, he deſerved mortification, and examples are neceſſary among that noble band of meſſengers.

Your's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

Au Comte de Dernath *.

MONSIEUR,

Ce Mardi, 28me Avril, 1713.

QUAND les affaires dont je ſuis chargé me le permettent, je ſerai toujours ravi de vous voir, & de recevoir les ordres que vous avez à me donner. Nous n'avons reçu, que par les lettres qui ſont arivées hier, la réponſe à ce que j'avois écrit en Hollande, ſur les affaires du Nord, & particulièrement ſur celles de Holſtein.

Vous ſavez, Monſieur, que les Etats-Généraux ſe trouvent, à ces égards, à peu près dans les mêmes engagemens que la Reine, c'eſt pourquoi ſa Majeſté ſouhaiteroit d'y marcher de concert avec eux.

J'aurai l'honneur de vous parler plus amplement ſur ce ſujet demain, ſi vous prenez la peine de paſſer à midi au bureau de,

Monſieur, &c.

* The Daniſh Miniſter.

To the Earl of Strafford.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 28th, 1713.

I WOULD very readily inform you of the particulars you mention concerning the ſubſidies, if any reſolution had been yet taken, as your Lordſhip was told, but indeed, my Lord, I know of none. My own private ſenſe, I freely will communicate to you, and that is this: I take it for granted, that none of the Princes concerned, nor all of them put together, can hope to obtain from this Parliament, the leaſt complaiſance on the head of ſubſidies. A Parliament which ſat during the laſt ſummer, which had its ſhare in the tranſactions of that time, looks on itſelf as a party, to a great degree, in all that was then done, and I can aſſure you, that the reſentments of our friends run extremely high; beſides, my Lord, gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons have their new elections before their eyes, they are deſirous to make the burden as light this year as poſſible, to feel, and make others feel inſtantly, the difference between war and peace, and to do nothing which may have an unpopular air, among thoſe who are to chooſe them. The conſequence, therefore, of moving now a ſupply for thoſe arrears, would be a direct negative, and ſuch a one, as would cut off all poſſibility of obtaining, hereafter, the leaſt redreſs. Perhaps it is better for the Queen's ſervice, that this matter ſhould lie open, and a poſſibility ſubſiſt of obtaining, in a future ſeſſion, what is impracticable in this; uſe may be made of this leave in the courſe of the year.

I agree with your Lordſhip, that there is no wiſdom in obliging by halves, and I think there is as little in diſobliging by halves. The King of Pruſſia and the Duke of Savoy have certainly the laſt obligations to the Queen, and I make no doubt but ſhe will go on in her

good intentions towards both of them; but indeed, my Lord, if the true intereſt of Britain be for the future purſued, ſhe can have ſo ſeldom any occaſion of them for her own intereſts, and they muſt ſo frequently ſtand in need of her favour, that I think, if her Majeſty completes what ſhe has done for theſe Princes, there ſeems to be no abſolute neceſſity of her haſtening to heap new obligations upon them.

Your Lordſhip is a good friend, and Marſchalch has found it ſo; he is indeed a deſerving man; and by your Lordſhip's example, I will do the little that depends on me to make his Court perceive that he may be more uſeful, than another, to the King's affairs, in this country.

The French are too artificial, and the inſtance your Lordſhip gives is, in my opinion, a groſs inſtance thereof; the Imperialiſts are, on the other hand, too obſtinate and too narrow in their councils. I hope, however, that they will be brought to agree, and the proſpect ſeems fair enough. Your Lordſhip could not at this time employ yourſelf in any thing more uſeful, and I hope the ſucceſs will anſwer your endeavours.

I had not, I confeſs, any notion, that there was the leaſt probability of the Emperor's agreeing to the Elector of Bavaria's being Governor of the Netherlands, and it is hard at once to ſay what my opinion is on this head. Thus much I think is exceeding clear, that unleſs by the marriage of an Archducheſs, and by other preſent and remote advantages, the Houſe of Auſtria do entirely gain the Elector of Bavaria, he is the moſt dangerous perſon that the government of thoſe provinces can be truſted to, for the Dutch, for us, for all Europe.

Montéleon will ſoon be with you, we can no longer defer laying before the two Houſes the terms of peace; and therefore when the treaties with France are by her Majeſty's order communicated, a copy of the project, now finally ſettled with Montéleon, which you will receive next poſt, and which hardly differs at all from that ſent laſt poſt, is to be communicated too.

To

To render this project more authentic, Montéleon is to ſign an acknowledgment thereof, and a promiſe to execute the ſame in form, at Utrecht.

I am, my Lord, &c.

A Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont.

De Whitehall, ce 1me Mai, 1713.

VOUS pouvez, Monſieur, aſſurer le Roi, que les bons offices de la Reine ſeront vivement employés, pour porter tant ſa Majeſté Impériale que ſon Alteſſe Electorale Palatine à conſentir à cet expédient, & à tout autre qui pourra être convenable aux intérêts communs, afin de rendre la paix générale.

Il eſt indubitable, Monſieur, qu'il convient à l'Empereur de conſerver les fortifications de Briſac, & celles du fort Kehl: il convient auſſi à Monſieur de Baviére de rentrer dans la poſſeſſion de ſes états & dans l'exerciſe de ſes droits, non ſeulement par rapport au tems préſent, mais auſſi par rapport aux vues qu'il peut avoir, & à l'avenir. Permettez moi d'ajouter qu'il convient à la France, auſſi-bien qu'à la Grande Bretagne, que la paix ſoit définitive & générale.

Nous n'attendons que les ratifications, qui doivent avoir été échangées Mardi dernier, pour faire proclamer dans les formes la paix avec la France. Vous n'ignorez pas les bruits, que font courir ces génies fécondes en menſonges, ſur le ſujet des ratifications; bruits que les gens ſages mépriſent, & qui n'attirent l'attention que des ſots.

Je ſuis, Monſieur, &c.

To the Earl of Orrery.

Whitehall, May 1ſt, 1713.

YOU would, my dear Lord, be very much in the wrong if you imagined your letters a trouble, or your commands a burthen to me. I receive both with great pleaſure, and am only ſorry when I cannot anſwer one, and obey the other, ſo ſatisfactorily and ſo ſucceſsfully as I wiſh to do.

I was not forgetful of your intereſt, when Lord Cholmondely was removed, but do not find there is any poſſibility of getting a declaration upon that head, till the ſeſſion of Parliament is over, and that I believe will not continue long.

Notwithſtanding the airs, which the Emperor and his Miniſters give themſelves, I am much miſtaken if he lets the firſt of June paſs without coming into the peace. In this caſe, the ceſſion of the Low Countries, which is at preſent lodged in the Queen's hands, muſt be directly made to him, and that will follow ſo ſoon, that you would not, I am ſure, think proper to leave your poſt, neither would there be time to ſend over any perſon to relieve you. A few days will determine the point if he does not come in, and I will move her Majeſty, in this caſe, to appoint ſome perſon to ſucceed you. Let me have early notice of your deſires and meaſures, and I will endeavour to ſerve you. We are winding up a great game, and I know your Lordſhip's part will not be wanting, where the ſervice of the Queen, the intereſt of your country, and the honour of your friends, are ſo much concerned.

Adieu, my dear Lord,

I am, &c.

To

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, May 1ſt, 1713.

YOUR Lordſhip may be aſſured that I will do my beſt to ſerve Mr. Ayerſt *. His perſonal merit is great, and I am ſure his recommendation is ſo too. I hope he will ſucceed.

I am, &c.

To Lord Lexington.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, May 1713.

BESIDES what my other letter contains, I am to tell your Lordſhip, that I have not failed to repreſent to the Queen, the ill ſtate of health which you enjoy in Spain, and the neceſſity which there is, upon this and other accounts, of recalling your Lordſhip, as ſoon as the buſineſs you are engaged in, and the ceremony you are afterwards to go through, are over. I have likewiſe put Lord Treaſurer in mind, of what your Lordſhip expects from his friendſhip in this affair, and in relation to your appointments: in both, your Lordſhip may, I think, promiſe yourſelf ſatisfaction, and I hope you depend upon my beſt ſervices, whenever you pleaſe to command them.

The treaties of peace and commerce being laid before the Houſes, we ſhall ſoon ſee what turn thoſe, who oppoſe the Queen's meaſures, will take; my opinion is, that the weakneſs of their cauſe, and the

* Chaplain and Secretary to the Earl of Strafford; he brought to London the ratification of the treaties.

weakneſs

weakneſs of their numbers, will determine them to ſet quiet; in which caſe, our ſeſſion will be over by the end of June.

I muſt not conclude this letter without thanking your Lordſhip for the favour you have been pleaſed to ſhew to all thoſe whom I have recommended to your protection; I hope they make the returns they ought; certain it is, that your goodneſs ſhall be always remembered by, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's, &c.

A Madame la Princeſſe des Urſins *.*

8me Mai, 1713.

JE réponds, Madame, à la lettre que votre Alteſſe a bien voulu m'écrire, avec tous les ſentimens de reſpect & de reconnoiſſance, qu'une telle honneur doit exiger de moi.

* This remarkable woman was the daughter of Noirmouſtier, who figured away in the troubles during the minority of Louis XIV, and became Duke à-brevet. She firſt married Blaiſe de Talleyrand, who aſſumed the title of Prince de Chalais, and was concerned in the duel againſt the Laffrettes, in which the eldeſt ſon of the Duke de Beauvilliers was killed. He fled to Spain, where ſhe joined him, but ſoon after her journey to Rome, he died. She there had recourſe to Cardinals de Bouillon and d'Etrées, who took care of her, on account of her name and country, and eſtabliſhed her there. She had no fortune, and no children. The Cardinals perſuaded the old Duke of Bracchiano, head of the houſe des Urſins, that he was in love with her; and to obtain the King's conſent to the marriage, ſtated the acquiſition it would be to that Monarch, to gain a man of the Duke's conſequence: the thought was approved, Bracchiano became a knight of the King's orders, and the marriage was ſolemnized in 1675. Upon the diſpute of Louis with Pope Innocent, Bracchiano returned his collar of knighthood. Madame, at Rome, diſplayed her wit and her charms, and formed a court at the palace des Urſins, where her lord was treated as a being of little conſequence; their quarrels and ſeparations were frequent, and ſhe then uſed to take her journies to Paris, where ſhe remained ſometimes two or three years together. The Duke died at Rome, in 1698, aged 78, with the title of Prince de Seglio. Don Livio Odeſcalchi bought the duchy of Bracchiano, on condition that the widow ſhould drop that title, and ſhe then aſſumed that of des Urſins. Cardinal d'Eſtrées had influence with Portocarrero, the Miniſter of Spain; and obtained for her the place of Camarara-major to the Princeſs of Savoy, then Queen to Philip V. She a long while governed the Spaniſh councils, and, by communicating information to Madame de Maintenon, gained her friendſhip, and in ſome degree ſwayed thoſe of France. In 1709, Louis XIV and Philip King of Spain, determined upon her diſgrace, and ſhe was accordingly baniſhed; but ſhe effected her immediate reſtoration to power and influence; and at the date of this letter had prevail'd upon the Kings of France and Spain, and in a great meaſure too upon the Queen of Great Britain, to ſecond her views of independent ſovereignty in the Netherlands; but her final diſgrace, immediately upon the marriage of Philip, with his ſecond Queen, Elizabeth of Parma, in 1713, put an end to her vanity, her ambition, and her influence.

Si d'un côté je ne puis pas me flatter d'avoir cette étendue d'eſprit que Monſieur le Marquis de Monteleon m'attribue, j'oſe, Madame, aſſurer votre Alteſſe de l'autre côté, qu'elle trouvera toujours de la droiture & de la fermeté de cœur dans toutes les occaſions, où il lui plaira de m'employer.

Nous ſavons, Madame, Monſieur d'Oxford & moi, parfaitement bien, à qui nous ſommes redévables des favorables diſpoſitions de leurs Majeſtés Catholiques à notre égard. Nous ſommes pénétrés d'une vive reconnoiſſance, & nous tâcherons, par notre conduite, de mériter le titre honorable de bons Eſpagnols; c'eſt dans ce caractère, que je félicite votre Alteſſe, de l'heureuſe groſſeſſe de la Reine, & que je prie Dieu qu'il conſerve ſa Majeſté, afin qu'elle donne encore d'autres héros à l'Eſpagne, & qu'elle aſſure, par une nombreuſe race, la tranquillité de l'Europe, qui vient d'être rétable.

En effet, Madame, le grand ouvrage de la paix n'eſt plus incertain. Toutes les puiſſances, engagées dans la guerre, viennent de ſigner leurs traités avec la France; & ſont prêtes à faire de même avec l'Eſpagne, à l'exception de ſa Majeſté Impériale, qui marchant ſur les traces de ſes prédéceſſeurs *, veut être le dernier à conclure.

J'ai communiqué au Marquis de Monteleon, les avis que nous avons reçu, touchant les intentions de la cour de Vienne, & le jugement que nous formons là-deſſus.

Il faut qu'il s'attend à eſſuyer quelques difficultés dans la négociation, tant de la part des Impériaux, que de la part des Hollandois; mais, habil comme il eſt, ces difficultés ne ſerveront qu'à augmenter ſa réputation, & à mettre dans tout ſon jour ce zèle indéfatigable, dont il eſt rempli pour le ſervice du Roi ſon maître. Il ne manquera pas d'être ſecondé, dans toutes les négociations, par Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la

* At the peace of Ryſwick, the Emperor was the laſt that came into the meaſure.

Reine,

Reine, qui n'auront plus rien à conteſter avec lui; les intérêts réciproques de la Reine & du Roi Catholique étant, à la fin, entièrement ajuſtés.

Ce n'eſt pas, Madame, le ſeul avantage qui reviendra, d'avoir arrêté le projet de paix entre nos deux cours. Nous ôtons par ce moyen aux ennemis de la paix une belle occaſion qu'ils auroient eu, & dont ils n'auroient pas manqué de ſe ſervir, ſi la Reine avoit été obligée, quand elle communique les traités de paix & de commerce avec la France aux deux chambres du Parlement, ce qui ſe doit faire aujourd'hui, de parler de la négociation avec l'Eſpagne comme étant encore ouverte, & ſi par ce moyen la connoiſſance des points diſputés fut venue à des aſſemblées ſi nombreuſes, & par conſéquent ſi difficiles à gouverner.

On m'avertit d'Utrecht, que Monſieur d'Aubigny *, qui prend ſoin des intérêts de votre Alteſſe, eſt arrivé; je me flatte qu'il ſera content des Plénipotentiaires de la Reine, & j'oſe aſſurer votre Alteſſe, que ces Meſſieurs ſont tellement inſtruits & autoriſés, en conformité des meſures concertées ici entre Monſieur de Montéleon & moi, que, de manière ou d'autre, ſes prétenſions ne pourront pas manquer de réuſſir, & d'obtenir toute la ſureté que la Garantie de la Reine leur puiſſe donner.

Le yatch de ſa Majeſté, qui doit porter en Hollande, le Marquis de de Monteleon, étant prêt, je compte que nous allons perdre, en très peu de jours, un Miniſtre qui s'eſt fait également eſtimer & chérir dans ce pays.

Dans mon particulier, je ſuis inconſolable. Je perds, en même-tems, le plaiſir de traiter avec un Miniſtre habil, & de vivre avec un ami agréable. Je joins à ces ſentimens, le regret de quitter ces Meſ-

* This man was the creature of her own forming, and executed all her ſchemes, in Spain and elſewhere. She diſpatched him to France, where, by her orders, he built a Palace, called Chanteloup, near Tours; the world was long at a loſs to know on what account ſo princely a manſion was built, in a ſpot where no domain was attached to it, at laſt, it appeared that it was for d'Aubigny, there he carouſed, and enjoyed the reward of his labours in her ſervice.

ſieurs* qui ſont venus de France avec lui. Pour me dédommager, en quelque façon, de ces malheurs, j'ai taché, mais inutilement, de perſuader au Comte de Montijo†, de s'amuſer encore plus long-tems à Londres; ſi j'avois pu réuſſir, j'aurai fait ma cour à tout ce qu'il y a de meilleur chez nous, car tout le monde a été ſurpris de la conduite de ce jeune Seigneur. Il eſt rare de trouver autant de jugement avec autant de vivacité, & une ſi grande connoiſſance du monde, dans un âge ſi peu avancé.

Je ſerois indigne des bontés, dont il a plu à votre Alteſſe de me combler, ſi je ne lui rendois mes très humbles remercimens d'avoir pris ſous ſa protection, un gentilhomme de mes parens, qui a du mérite dans ſon metier, & de lui avoir procuré la charge qu'il occupe dans les gardes de ſa Majeſté Catholique. Je ſerai toute ma vie pénétré de la plus vive reconnoiſſance, & je me ferai gloire de montrer, dans toutes les occaſions, l'attachement très reſpectueux avec lequel j'ai l'honneur d'être, Madame de votre Alteſſe, &c.

Je prends, Madame, la liberté d'ajouter quelques lignes à la lettre que j'ai eu l'honneur d'écrire à votre Alteſſe, pour avoir celle de lui dire, que les traités avec la France, auſſi bien que celui avec l'Eſpagne, que Monſieur de Monteleon & moi avons ſigné proviſionellement, ont été communiqués, par ordre de la Reine, aux deux Chambres du Parlement. Nous nous ſommes, Madame, fort bien apperçu, que les meſures des ennemis de la paix ont été rompues ici par ce pas. Pour les rompre de même par tout ailleurs, il faut que le Marquis de Monteleon ſe rend au plus vite à Utrecht, & qu'il y ſigne avec le Duc d'Oſſune‡, la paix dans les formes.

* Duke d'Atri, Marquis de Grello, and Count Bardi. † Spaniſh Plenipotentiary.
‡ The chief Plenipotentiary of Spain, at the Hague, and afterwards Ambaſſador to the Court of Great Britain.

Dans

Dans cette vûe, & ſur ces principes, il ſeroit à ſouhaiter que les ratifications puiſſent être échangées au retour de ce courier ; ce qui pourra être fait, ſi le Roi veut bien les confier à ſes Plénipotentiaires en blanc, afin qu'ils y insèrent le traité, qu'ils auront ſigné avec ceux de la Reine. Excuſez, Madame, la longueur de cette lettre ; pardonnez-moi ſi j'abuſe de votre bonté & de votre patience. Je me flatte par avance, que votre Alteſſe m'accordera cette grâce, quand elle fera reflexion, que mon unique but, eſt de mettre hors de danger ce grand ouvrage, que nous avons ſi heureuſement conduit juſques ici ; de rétablir au plutôt l'ancienne amitié entre nos deux nations, de faciliter aux Miniſtres d'Eſpagne, ce qui leur reſte à négocier à Utrecht, & de rendre la concluſion de la paix générale ſûre, par la ſignature de la paix particulière.

Je ſuis, Madame,

De votre Alteſſe, &c.

To the Earl of Orrery.

MY DEAR LORD,

Whitehall, May 13th, 1713.

I RECEIVE this moment the honour of your letters, public and private, of the 18th inſt. but being obliged to diſpatch the poſt, which has been kept a day longer than uſual, immediately, I have only time to ſcribble a few words to your Lordſhip, on two points.

As to Nieuport, my Lord, you may look into the barrier treaty, a copy whereof I remember to have put into your Lordſhip's hands, and you will there find, that the Dutch have nothing to do with it, this town being excluded out of their barrier. Beſides, it has been agreed that, for the intermediate time, and till the Emperor is pleaſed to accept

cept of theſe Provinces, the Queen's troops ſhall remain in this place; whereof your Lordſhip ought to have been informed, and indeed I took it for granted that you was ſo.

As to your own affairs, I am your friend, and will ſpeak to you of them, with the frankneſs which becomes that character.

The truly Auſtrian reſolution, which his Imperial Majeſty ſeems to have taken, of continuing a war, when he has neither allies, magazines, money, nor troops, put the Queen under a neceſſity of doing, what ſhe would gladly have avoided, I mean, keeping her ſhare in the government of the Netherlands ſome time longer. Should ſhe evacuate the towns, and ceaſe to act by a Miniſter at Bruſſels, the Dutch would remain ſole maſters in theſe countries, and have it in their power, as we ſufficiently know they have it in their inclination, not only to avoid redreſſing the grievances, which our trade lies under, and which the Commiſſaries at Utrecht are now debating, but even to lay new hardſhips on us.

Your Lordſhip has, therefore, done well in not giving the leaſt hint, as if the Queen would quit her part of the adminiſtration yet a while, ſince, whatever ſhe might intend when I writ formerly to you, the Emperor's meaſures make her reſolve to keep the hold ſhe has now. Your Lordſhip will, on this foot, conſider, whether you will think it right, in ſo critical a circumſtance, to leave the poſt you are in. You are uneaſy, and your affairs require your preſence here. My Lord, uneaſy hours are the fate of almoſt every man who ſerves the public, and he, who acts with zeal, muſt, to ſome degree, neglect his own buſineſs; ſure I am, I have found both theſe propoſitions to be true in their utmoſt extent.

The formal licence which your Lordſhip deſired of coming home whenever you thought proper, could, by no means, be granted. The Queen, it is true, did give this in two inſtances, but I believe ſhe never will

will do it in any other, and indeed it is out of all rule. Let me know your final reſolution by the firſt poſt. If you come over, I will take care to give it a right turn to the Queen; but pray, my Lord, be poſitive as to your continuing or not continuing in that poſt, becauſe every poſt from Holland brings us freſh proofs, that the Dutch are not to be truſted alone in the Low Countries.

I ſee by theſe letters, what anſwer we are to receive as to the propoſition of maintaining the Queen's troops.

Excuſe the bluntneſs and frank manner in which I write, it proceeds from a heart wholly your's.

I am, and ever will be, your ſlave.

To the Earl of Strafford.

Whitehall, May , 1713.

SURELY, my Lord, your Excellency took a very right method, in acquainting the Queen yourſelf, with the compliment which the Electreſs of Hanover deſired you to make. I am naturally neither jealous nor exceptious, and I know ſo well the friendſhip, which your Excellency honours me with, that I ſhould not on any occaſion, have the leaſt umbrage at your proceedings.

I believe it would be abſurd, at this time of day, to make a treaty for the Pruſſians; whatever voucher the pay-maſter may want for ſatisfying thoſe arrears, will, I believe, be got ſooner, than we ſhall be ready to clear them. The Queen determines to make her people feel the good effects of peace, to as great a degree as ſhe can, and, therefore, will be very ſlow in calling on them to provide for theſe debts. Can the Court of Pruſſia think of aſking the Queen, whom they abandon-

ed, for her part of the additional ſubſidy, when the States, to whom they adhered, do not agree to the payment of theirs?

I am, my Lord,

Your Excellency's, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

Whitehall, May 16th, 1713.

I AM, my Lord, to acknowledge the honour of your letter of the 23d.

As to the firſt part thereof, I think there is not any need of your ſigning a treaty antedated for the 8,000 Pruſſians *, neither would it be, in the preſent conjunctnre, entirely proper.

As to Mr. Ayerſt he has had, and ſhall have, my beſt offices, and I hope to be to day at a certainty what I can do for him, on which he will take his meaſures, either of ſtaying ſome time longer here, or of returning to your Lordſhip.

The French are, we find by our laſt letters from Paris, pouring on the Rhine and Moſelle a much greater number of troops than they at firſt intended. It cannot enter into my head that the Emperor will be in any condition to oppoſe them, ſo that I muſt ſtill live in hope the negotiation will be quickly renewed. I am apt to think that, in all events, the Germans will pay for their pride, and learn, when it is too late, that Utrecht was the beſt place they could have finiſhed their treaty in.

I am, my Lord, &c.

* The Pruſſians had been continued in the pay of Great Britain and the States, without any renewal of the firſt treaty for them.

To the Lord Privy Seal.

My Lord,

Whitehall, May 16th, 1713.

I MOST humbly thank your Lordſhip for the private letter of the 8th inſtant, N.S. brought by Mr. Rowland, and for the hint which you are pleaſed to give me therein.

Moſt certainly, my Lord, the neceſſities of Sweden, and the intereſt of Great Britain, call for the ſame thing; and if the Dutch would lay this matter to heart, and concert frankly about it with the Queen, your Lordſhip would ſee all the ſpirit exerted on our ſide that is to be deſired. I do not know how far it may be expedient to let the French into a ſhare of this negotiation, which I find by many tokens they earneſtly deſire, but I have often thought, that in caſe this ſhould be judged proper, the work would thereby, in one reſpect, be greatly facilitated; there being many things fit for them to preſs or to oppoſe, which we cannot ſo properly take part in.

The firſt ſtep is to ſet a treaty on foot, and the firſt ſtep towards that ſeems to be the coming of C. Velligh, or ſome perſon of equal power, into Holland.

I am, &c.

To Mr. Wich.

Sir,

Whitehall, May 26th, 1713.

I CHOOSE to put into a letter a-part, what I have to ſay to you upon the ſubject of Monſieur Weddercop, as being a private buſineſs. I have often ſpoken to C. Vandernath upon that matter, and if one

gentleman is to be believed to another, he aſſures me, he has not only writ to the adminiſtrator, but likewiſe received a favourable anſwer; he gave me one hint, which, as your friend, I think it for your ſervice to communicate to you, he wiſhed that you would not mingle any thing of private pique in this buſineſs, and then he thought it would do. If Monſieur Goertz and you have any animoſity, one againſt the other, it would be much the beſt to drop it, in this matter, and by that means you might more ſmoothly and eaſily obtain your purpoſe.

I ſhall further it as much as lies in my power, and remind Monſieur Vandernath of his promiſes, which I hope will come to good effect, at leaſt leave them no excuſe. Forgive the plainneſs of,

Sir,

Your very faithful,

Humble ſervant.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

My Lord,

Paris, May 9th, 1713, N.S.

THIS is to acquaint your Lordſhip, that on Friday laſt, I received a courier from Lord Privy Seal, deſiring me to procure from this Court, the expedition of the acts of ceſſion of St. Chriſtopher's and Nova Scotia, to be delivered at the exchange of the ratifications, in conformity to the twelfth article of our treaty of peace.

His Lordſhip at the ſame time acquainted me, that the Dutch miniſters were very much embarraſſed, concerning the act of ceſſion, the Elector of Bavaria is to give of the Spaniſh Netherlands to the States-General, in favour of the Houſe of Auſtria; and therefore entreated me to preſs this Court, that the ſaid act may be diſpatched, and depoſited in the hands of her Majeſty's miniſters, at the ſame time

time that the French and Dutch ratifications are to be exchanged, as ſtipulated in one of the articles of their treaty of peace.

I immediately writ to Monſieur de Torcy at Marli, where the Court now is, and deſired him to get the ſaid ſeveral acts diſpatched and ſent to Utrecht; he ſent me word, that as ſoon as he could get the act of ceſſion from the Elector of Bavaria (who was with him, and had promiſed it that day) he would forthwith diſpatch a courier with both the acts to their Ambaſſadors; of which I gave my Lord Privy Seal notice; and on Sunday morning early, Monſieur de Torcy ſent me a letter, acquainting me, that the expreſs, which brought me the letter, was then carrying to Utrecht, the patent or act of ceſſion of St. Chriſtopher's and Acadie, in due form, according to the tenour of the article of our treaty, and under the Great Seal; as alſo the act of ceſſion from the Elector of Bavaria; ſo that nothing now can hinder the exchange of the ratifications.

By letters from Madrid, I ſee that Lord Lexington is not yet quite recovered, and that Mr. Gilligan continues ſtill very ill.

That Mareſchal Staremberg defers the evacuating Catalonia, till the arrival of Admiral Jennings, and General Roſs.

Mr. Prior has been very ill of a violent cholic and pleuritical pain, but is now upon the mending hand.

Mareſchal d'Harcourt has had a fit of an apoplexy, it is thought he will recover, but not be in a condition to ſerve this campaign.

I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From Mr. Prior.

Paris, April 10th, 1713.

PERMIT me, my dear Lord, to trouble you with a medicinal caſe, in which your friend Matt has been the patient: on Monday was ſevennight, I was very ſuddenly taken ill, at Verſailles, with a ſort of cholera morbus, or overflowing of the bile; the effect of which was, that after the emetic, I vomited about twelve hours; very bad; was blooded; blood gall itſelf, worſe yet. When in the midſt of theſe ugly circumſtances, a ſkillful Phyſician, one Lauderdale, who tended me, ſaw that an impoſthume was happily broke, it was what neither he, nor I, nor any man ever gueſſed I had; and lay upon the pleura, of this by his great attendance and help, I am diſcharged, and I believe it is all come away; I am better in health, than I have been theſe ſeven years, and may live to be a devouter man, than I have been, but never a more faithful ſubject to my Queen, nor a truer friend to my dear Lord Bolingbroke. Adieu, my Lord,

Your's, ever,

M. PRIOR.

Duke of Shrewſbury's concern for my carcaſe, and real joy upon my recovery, are inconceivable.

From

From Mr. Prior.

Paris, 2-13th, May, 1713.

I AM extremely obliged to you, my dear Lord, for yours of the 20th April; as to the points of Italy, that of the four places upon the coaſts of Italy, ſtands, I think, as you deſired. The Savoy Plenipotentiary hath applied to my Lord Dartmouth, as he has done to Monſieur de Torcy, for the immediate evacuation of what the French give in Savoy, and the county of Nice; and ſuch orders are forwarded, and advice thereof given to the Count St. Thomas*: of this collaterally we have adviſed Mr. Chetwynd †, ſo that whole affair ſtands to his Royal Highneſs's content.

As to the buſineſs of the ſpecies, and upon that explanation of our own way of underſtanding our own commerce, we had like to have made an Athanaſian buſineſs of it at Utrecht. Their letters to you, full of ſurmiſes and doubts, that all was unhinged, and their letters to us again, with copies of what they wrote to you, that explanations, however made, were only to ſave appearances, and ſignified nothing; this *mêlange*, I ſay, and my endeavouring to underſtand it, had like to make me run mad, if the Duke of Shrewſbury's extreme good ſenſe, and Monſieur de Torcy's not only honeſt, but right underſtanding, had not redreſſed us; the ſervice I did was, in letting Monſieur de Torcy ſee that our Plenipotentiaries, and Monſieur Meſnager, would every minute miſtake farther, and that, without reference to what either of them had writ; the Duke of Shrewſbury and himſelf, were immediately to ſet them beyond any poſſibility of diſputing farther, or entering into the article, which had now nothing at all to do with any choice or re-

* Firſt Miniſter to the Duke of Savoy. † Britiſh Reſident at Genoa.

fuſa

fuſal of the Dutch; our whole treaty of commerce being ſeparately, diſtinctly, and nationally agreed, long ſince, with France; this I thought came up to that eclairciſſement you gave us, and which ſerved us *ſicut lampas in tenebris*; ſo I beg pardon for looking back, for it is with great ſatisfaction that I ſee the proſpect clear, and what I have ſaid is Mat to Henry, which when the friend has read, the Secretary of State may burn.

I am much obliged to you for your advice to me in my own affairs, and much in the right for following it. I have writ a long letter to your brother Dartmouth, concerning prizes and ſhips to be reclaimed; the miſunderſtanding and abuſes that have been made, in filling up French paſſes are endleſs; and beſides that our ſhips are confiſcated here, we make a very poor and precarious figure, in ſome of our demands in this kind, but I hope we have an end of this ſort of ſtuff with the peace, and this too is only the complaint of one friend to another, both of whom (for our honour) have the nation's intereſt and credit much at heart.

I am much better than I was, when I laſt wrote to you, the impoſthume was fairly in my lungs, and if, after what muſt have killed me is removed, there will remain enough for the carrying on of life, is the queſtion.—*Tu ne quæſieris ſcire, nefas, quem mihi quem tibi finem dii dederint.* At preſent, at leaſt, I am better than I have been a great while.

Your huntreſs will be caught, if you have breath enough to follow her, and ſo will every huntreſs from Atalanta and Diana, to Cloe and Nannette; it is only want of lungs that will diſtance you in the chace, ſo go tay-ho, tay-ho! and when you cough like me, hang up your hunting ſpear and ſhrill horn, and ſit like me too, to write politic letters, and to think of nothing elſe, but performing the bare duties and

obligations

obligations of life. Adieu, I love to talk with you, and am ever moſt truly,

My Lord, your's,

M. PRIOR.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, 10th-21ſt May, 1713.

THE Duke of Shrewſbury ſends to Lord Dartmouth a new act of ceſſion, ſigned by the Elector of Bavaria; I do not doubt but it will anſwer all objections, and abſolutely ſupply the place of that inſtrument which is to be withdrawn when this arrives.

We do not well know what to make of the Emperor's politics; if he will come in the laſt day, according to the laudable cuſtom of the Houſe of Auſtria? is the queſtion. Villars goes from hence to-morrow, towards Germany; theſe people are more alarmed upon this incertitude, than one would have imagined, they prepare in good earneſt for a real campaign.

Duke of Shrewſbury's entry is fixed for Wedneſday ſe'nnight; his audience for the Friday, and all the parade to be over by Saturday night, after which a month will receive and return all his public viſits, and he is fully intent, as ſoon as poſſible, for England; immediately after the entry, is the time therefore for my trip to Savoy; this I have hinted to Lord Treaſurer, pray ſecond it; for you ſee we have but fourteen days, and her Majeſty's order cannot come to me too ſoon.

Another thing of which the Duke of Shrewſbury will ſoon write to your Lordſhip, and of which I beg you to think, is the choice of a perſon to ſucceed him here; in diſcourſe with Monſieur de Torcy, I find they

intend you an Ambaſſador, and without farther detour, Monſieur d'Aligre * will be the man, in caſe Lord Treaſurer and you approve him; he knows England, is a man of quality, and much Monſieur de Torcy's friend; of this, by Monſieur de Torcy's advice, I have wrote to Lord Treaſurer; don't name Aligre, except Lord Treaſurer names him to your Lordſhip, or you have it from the Duke of Shrewſbury; but when you have your eye upon ſome in England, of a like calibre and quality, I ſhall take it as a peculiar mark of your friendſhip if you pleaſe to hint them to me.

Monſieur de Torcy takes it for granted, that you have a regard to the *bona immobilia* in the manner the French deſire it; he recommends the incloſed Memoire † to your conſideration.

I refer

* He was made priſoner during the war; and when here was much eſteemed.

† "*Mémoire des ports, havres, & terres, ſitués dans le province d'Acadie qui appartiennent à Monſieur le Duc, & à Madame la Ducheſſe de Noirmontter, & à quelques particuliers.*

"Par un arrêt du Conſeil d'Etat du dernier Février, 1682, le Roi a concédé à défunt Monſieur le Marquis de Cheury, père de Madame la Ducheſſe de Noirmontier, & à ſes aſſociés, ſous les noms de quatre particuliers, qui en ont fait déclaration pour eux, leurs hoirs, ſucceſſeurs, & ayant cauſes, les terres le long de la côte de l'Acadie, & de la rivière de St. Jean, pour y faire l'établiſſement d'une pêche ſédentaire dans l'étendue de ſix lieues, aux environs de l'habitation qu'ils feroient, dont ſa Majeſté leur a fait don, à la charge de lui payer un redévance d'un marc d'argent par chacune année, & de faire l'établiſſement de la pêche ſédentaire dans un an.

"En conſéquence de cet arrêt, feu Meſſieurs le Marquis de Cheury & les Sieurs ſes aſſociés ont fait l'établiſſement de la pêche ſédentaire à Chédabouctou & Cauceau, de manière qu'aux Termes de l'arrêt ci-deſſus leurs repréſentans ſont propriétaires des ports de Chedabouctou & Canceau, qui ſont de bons ports & en bonne pêche, & de celui de Martingot qui en eſt à deux lieues, qui eſt encore un bon port pour les gros navires, & une bonne pêche de grand poiſſon, & à portée du piſtolet de ce port, lors de l'établiſſement il fut conſtruit un fort à l'entrée de celui de Chédabouctou. Ils ſont auſſi propriétaires des terres ſituées à ſix lieues de Chédabouctou, lieu où l'établiſſement de la pêcher ſédentaire a été fait.

"Par un autre arrêt du conſeil d'état du trois Mars, & par des lettres-patentes données au mois d'Avril, 1684, Le Roi a donné une extention de cette première conceſſion; ſa Majeſté a concédé à Monſieur le Marquis de Cheury, and aux Sieurs ſet aſſociés, ſous les noms des particuliers dont ils ſervoient qui leur en ont fait déclaration, toutes les terres & îles qui ſont en la côte de l'Acadie depuis la Cap de Campſeau juſqu'à la Baie de toutes Iles incluſivement, avec dix lieues de profondeur, & tous droits de chaſſe & de pêche dans l'étendue de ce pays, ſa Majeſté leur ayant fait don de toutes ces terres & îles pour en jouir en toute propriété & les tenir en fief, ſous la mouvance de la Couronne de France, ſans autres charges ni redévance que deux marcs d'argent payable chacun an à la recette du domaine d'Occident.

"Cette

I refer you for the reſt to what his Grace writes, and need not repeat that I am by many obligations, and, which is ſtrongeſt, by my own inclinations, eternally, my dear Lord, yours, &c.

Mr. PRIOR.

BROTHER SIM is here, very well and hearty, he tells me you have reſcued Cato * from Whigiſm. I have ſpoke to Lord Chamberlain concerning Booth, and I believe we may procure any encouragement for him that is reaſonable; I beg your pardon for this medley of a letter, and am, once more,

My Lord, yours,

MAT.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, May 13th, 1713, N.S.

I CANNOT omit this occaſion of thanking your Lordſhip, for your very obliging letter of the 19th of April, in your own hand. I will be ſure to ſpeak to Monſieur de Torcy about the *bona immobilia*, and the

" Cette dernière conceſſion eſt d'une grande étendue de pays, parce que depuis le Cap de Campſeau juſqu'à la Baye de toutes Iſles incluſivement, il y a vingt lieues, ce qui compoſe ſur dix lieues de profondeur, 200 lieux de pays; dans ce pays il y a beaucoup de bois de conſtruction, de belles mâtures, des lieux propres pour faire des moulins à ſcier, pour débiter du bordage pour les navires & autres planches. Les terres dans la profondeur à commencer à une lieue & demie, ou doux lieues du bord de la mer, ſont propres pour y mettre des grains & du chanvre, il y a de bonnes prairies en pluſieurs endroits, & on y peut faire le brays, le gaudron, & la rougine, qui ſont auſſi bons que ceux que l'on tire du Nord.

" Il ſe trouve dans l'étendue de cettedeuxième conceſſion, outre les trois ports, qui ſont de la première conceſſion, le port de Moquedome, qui eſt encore un bon port pour de grands navires, où il y a une bonne pêche & fort facile pour le dégras: de manière que dans cette étendue de 20 lieues il y a 4 bons ports: Chedabouctou, Campſeau, Martingot, & Moquedome; il y a eu, comme l'on l'a dit, un fort conſtruit à l'entrée de ce premier port & pluſieurs habitations, qui ont été détruites par les guerres."

* Meaning Addiſon, who though by party a Whig, aſſociated with the principal men on the Tory ſide; the day on which the account of the peace arrived, he dined with Bolingbroke, and they talked in a friendly manner of party; Addiſon raiſed his objections, and Bolingbroke anſwered them with great complaiſance.

galley-ſlaves as your Lordſhip directs; and alſo concerning the Miniſter they will ſend, when the Duke d'Aumont ſhall be recalled. Your thought on that ſubject is very juſt, as well as obliging to Monſieur de Torcy, which I am ſure he will be ſenſible of, as well as what has been writ to Utrecht, in favour of the Duke de St. Pierre.

If Lord Treaſurer approves of Mr. Prior's journey, I hope it will be ſoon directed; he has been very ill, and is ſtill weak, but let not that be an excuſe for delaying his orders, ſince he will certainly be in a condition to execute them before they can arrive.

I hope the ſeſſion will be good and ſhort, and the nation left in a temper, by abatements of taxes, to chooſe their next repreſentatives, honeſt country Gentlemen, who will intend the true intereſt of England. I am promiſed my public audience, as ſoon as the King comes from Marli, which will be the week before Whitſuntide; then I muſt enter into a courſe of ceremony, that will deſerve your pity, but I ſhall bear it the more cheefully, ſince it tends to my return home; where I moſt heartily long to be, and to aſſure you that I am moſt truly,

Yours, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

Both my meſſengers being now on your ſide the water, I deſire Philips, or Bill, this bearer, or both, may be ſent as ſoon as may be, for I ſhall want them.

From

From the Duke of Shrewſbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, May 13th, 1713, N.S.

I AM obliged to your Lordſhip for your friendly letter of the 19th April, and am glad to repeat to you, that the Elector of Bavaria's affair with the Emperor, reſting only upon the Marquiſate of Burgow, is in a fair way to be rightly accommodated; people talk here indeed of ſome new ſchemes upon that ſubject, of which I will not entertain you, not having heard of them from Marli.

Concerning the explanation of the four towns upon the coaſt of Tuſcany, as to the time of their being poſſeſſed by the Emperor; I refer your Lordſhip to what I have already writ thereupon to the Earl of Dartmouth; obſerving only, I hope the ſituation of that affair is according to what her Majeſty deſires.

It is with very great ſatisfaction, my Lord, that I find her Majeſty thinks, that my obtaining the declaratory act from this Court, in relation to the ſpecies, was for her ſervice; it is certain that poſſibility, or appearance even of any future difficulty, which the Lords Plenipotentiaries were apprehenſive might ariſe to us, upon the Dutch declining the tarif of 1664, is now entirely obviated and removed; the Miniſters of this Court having declared to me, that the King underſtands we are as much entitled to the benefit of the article of commerce, as if the Dutch accepted the tariff juſt now mentioned; and indeed we never acted upon any other principle. I am leſs pleaſed to look back upon what may have occaſioned theſe doubts (which the Lords Plenipotentiaries mentioned to you in theirs of the 14th of April, of which they ſent me an abſtract) than to tell you, that, by what has been ſent to Utrecht, thoſe doubts are at an end, beyond any poſſibility of farther miſtake.

I wiſh the commiſſioners, who are farther to ſettle the points of commerce, may meet without loſs of time, the rather becauſe theſe people ſeem, at preſent, in a diſpoſition to adjuſt matters amicably with us.

My Lord Lexington informs me, that Mr. Gilligan continues; I can only repeat what Mr. Prior, as well as myſelf have writ, that we ſhall be ready to give him all imaginable aſſiſtance here, towards concluding the affair with the French Guinea Company; and I hope your Lordſhip's plenary inſtructions will not fail to meet him here, for I believe that buſineſs cannot be finiſhed in Spain.

I have nothing to add, but to aſſure your Lordſhip, that

I am, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, May 22d, 1713, N.S.

I ONLY write this word to your Lordſhip to refer you to what I have writ to the Earl of Dartmouth; I have ſent him a third act of ſeſſion, executed by the Elector of Bavaria, which I hope will be found ſufficient to ſet that affair right; you will likewiſe ſee by the ſame letter, that I think this Court, by their manner of acting, in regard to the orders they are to ſend to America, have a particular eye towards her Majeſty's declaring herſelf concerning the *bona immobilia*. I told Monſieur de Torcy what you writ; that the ſubjects of France might expect from the Queen the treatment they deſire; her Majeſty not doubting, but that the King will, on his part, ſhow that indulgence which ſhe deſires to the Proteſtants in the Galleys; Monſieur de Torcy tells me, that the Duke d'Aumont has orders to give her Majeſty a ſatisfactory account of this affair;

affair; which I ſuppoſe will render the other part of it (that of the *bona immobilia*) eaſy.

I am, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

P.S. I have received a letter from the Duke Schomberg, in relation to his eſtate in this kingdom; he ſays, your Lordſhip and Lord Treaſurer have laid his pretenſions before the Queen; I only wait her Majeſty's orders, to enable me to apply to the miniſtry here on that ſubject.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, May 29th, 1713.

I AM to acknowledge the honour of your Grace's letters of the 9th, 13th, and 22d of this month, N.S.

As to what is contained in the firſt of theſe, I need ſay nothing to your Grace, ſince that whole matter ſeems now to be over, and, I hope, to common ſatisfaction. Your Grace had reaſon to think the diſputes, between his Imperial Majeſty and the Elector of Bavaria, in a fair way to be rightly accommodated, ſince the only difference turned upon the marquiſate of Burgau; but it ſeems ſome treaſures, which lay concealed in Germany, during the late war, are now diſcovered, and the Emperor, who was able to do little or nothing, when ſupported by the Queen and by the States, is now in a condition to ſtand on his own legs, and, without our aſſiſtance, to make head againſt France and Spain. A little time will ſhow how he will maintain what he has undertaken. For my own part, I cannot help believing, that he intends rather to ſhift the ſcene of treating, than to break off all negociation.

gociation. About this we ſhall give ourſelves no other concern, than that the Proteſtant intereſt in the empire is not likely to be ſo well taken care of, and provided for in any other place, as it would have been at Utrecht, where the Queen's Miniſters, and thoſe of the States, would have been more watchful, and more vigorous in this cauſe, than I fear the Proteſtant powers of the empire will themſelves be. I have already ſuggeſted this to my Lord Ambaſſadors at Utrecht, and deſired they would, in concert with the Dutch Miniſters, conſider whether any thing, and what, may properly be done, to prevent an ill conſequence of this kind.

The declaratory act, which your Grace obtained, concerning the ſpecies excepted in the ninth article of the treaty of commerce, was not only for the Queen's ſervice, but I will be bold enough to affirm, that unleſs it had been obtained, the treaty of commerce had better never have been made; and whoever hears, what I do every day, both in Parliament and out of Parliament, from people of all ranks, and of all parties, will ſoon be of the ſame opinion. No time will, I hope, be loſt in bringing the Commiſſioners appointed to ſettle the undecided articles, to meet. But the firſt neceſſary ſtep is taking off prohibitions, and lowering of duties on our part, and until the bill for this purpoſe has paſſed the two Houſes, and the ſenſe of the Parliament is known on the conditional bargain, which her Majeſty has made, I doubt theſe Commiſſioners would aſſemble to very little purpoſe.

I ſuppoſe Lord Dartmouth has not failed to inform your Grace, that he has writ already, by the Queen's order, to Mr. Nicholſon, who takes poſſeſſion of Newfoundland, and commands both there and in Nova Scotia, that her Majeſty's intention is, to allow the ſubjects of France the liberty of ſelling their immovable eſtates; that he will ſoon receive a poſitive order to this purpoſe; and that, in the mean time, he is therefore to do nothing, which may interfere with this deſign

of her Majeſty, or hinder the effect of it. We ſuppoſe the Court of France will think they have reaſon to be ſatisfied with this ſtep for the preſent, ſince your Grace, I am ſure, knows, though the Duke d'Aumont will not allow it to be ſo, that this indulgence on her Majeſty's part was only promiſed, in conſideration of that indulgence, which his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty ſhould ſhow to the Proteſtants in the gallies, and ſince hitherto we know of nothing done towards the relief of theſe poor people, except that the French Miniſter has acquainted me that 188 perſons have been releaſed from the chain, whereof fifty, having abjured the Proteſtant religion, are permitted to continue in France. I ſuppoſe this is not the ſatisfactory account, which Monſieur de Torcy told your Grace the Duke d'Aumont had orders to give her Majeſty; indeed, my Lord, ſomething better than this ought to be expected, and I hope to hear farther from your Grace, as well as from the Duke d'Aumont, upon this head. I forgot to ſay above, that the ſame directions will be given about St. Chriſtopher's, as have been, or ſhall be given about the Northern Colonies in America. And I muſt not omit to acquaint your Grace, that the pretenſions of the Duke of Schomberg were laid before the Queen, according to what he writes to your Grace: her Majeſty's intention is to promote the ſucceſs of them; and ſhe commanded me to ſay to your Grace, that ſhe hoped you would do what is in your power to ſerve the Duke.

I am now to ſpeak to your Grace on a ſubject which grows every day upon us, and exacts a great part of our attention—I mean the ſtate of affairs in the North, concerning which, as they paſs through my hands, her Majeſty has thought fit particularly to command me, that I ſhould write at large to your Grace, giving you an account of the ſteps which have been taken, and of ſuch as ſhe judges it proper for your Grace to take, during your ſtay in France. The Queen, my Lord, has received an account from Mr. Jackſon, her Reſident at Stockholm,

Stockholm, and likewiſe from the Count de Gyllenburg*, to whom the ſenate of Sweden have lately ſent an expreſs upon the ſubject, that this kingdom is reduced to the laſt extremities; oppreſſed by taxes, ſtarved by the decay of trade, and diſpeopled, as well by the frequent draughts of recruits, as by the peſtilence, that they are unable any longer to ſupport the few places which they ſtill poſſeſs in Germany; that they can poſſibly furniſh but 8000 men, for the defence of the duchy of Finland, that the utmoſt they ſhall be able to do, will be to fit out a ſquadron of ſhips, in order to prevent any invaſion of Schonen, and to diſturb the maritime enterprizes of their enemies; at the ſame time her Majeſty conſiders that Count Steinboc's army has ſurrendered priſoners of war; that in all probability the Northern allies are going to beſiege, and it is to be expected will take Wiſmar and Stralſund, and any other port which the Swedes may hold on this ſide of the Baltic; that the Czar is actually entering with 30,000 men into Finland; that the King of Sweden has little or nothing to expect from the Porte, though, by an unaccountable fatality, he ſeems to have neglected, for ſome years, all reaſonable meaſures, which might have been taken for his ſervice, on this ſide of the world, and to have fixed his ſole expectation in the Turks, who, after the treatment they had given him, made him ſome amends at Adrianople when they heard of the news, magnified very much by the Swedes, of Count Steinboc's victory†, and who will, upon the ſame principle of levity, at beſt, neglect him, when they ſhall hear of the late affair in Holſtein.

The effect of theſe and other conſiderations on her Majeſty's mind, I need not mention to your Grace; it were to be wiſhed they had the

* Swediſh Reſident; in the year 1716, he was arreſted, and his papers ſeized, which diſcovered the intentions of Charles XII to invade Great Britain.

† Near Gadeſbuſh, where the Daniſh troops, and ſome Saxon cavalry, received almoſt a total defeat: the Turks, upon this, declared war againſt the Czar. But, ſoon afterwards, the Swede had loſt Holſtein, and Pomerania was threatened.

ſame on the States-General, but hitherto, whether from natural phlegm, or from a worſe reaſon, the Miniſters of Holland have not appeared to be affected with the impending ruin of Sweden, and the conſequences thereof, in proportion to what they deſerve. The Queen, however, could not determine to ſit abſolutely ſtill, but reſolved to attempt ſomething, in hopes by this means, to incite the States more effectually, than by general ſolicitations, to concur with her, and ſeriouſly to advert to this buſineſs. I ſent two days ago to the Swediſh Miniſter, and when he came to my office, I told him, I had the Queen's particular order to let him know, that although the weight of the late war, in which her Majeſty was engaged, had made it impoſſible for her to act in ſuch a manner, as her inclination, and the general intereſt, would have guided her to do; and although the conduct of the Northern powers, each in their turn, has been ſuch, as to make it, for the moſt part, doubtful whether the caſes, implied by her Majeſty's treaties, exiſt or not; yet the Queen could not acquieſce in ſeeing Sweden ſubdued, and the balance of the North deſtroyed; and, on the other hand, ſhe could not ſuffer the Swedes, by virtue of defenſive obligations towards them, to draw her into the ſupport of the war, and to be a partner in all new deſigns, grafted upon the original quarrel. That, therefore, her Majeſty was ready to enter into all reaſonable meaſures, to preſerve Sweden from that ruin, which ſeems to hang over the kingdom; but the Swedes muſt make the firſt ſtep, in order to capacitate the Queen, and the reſt of their friends, to ſave them. A ſtep, which if the King of Sweden would have made ſome time ago, his affairs would not have been reduced to the miſerable circumſtances they are now in; in ſhort, that the Queen expected they ſhould declare themſelves ready and willing to treat, that they ſhould make this offer either directly, or through her Majeſty, to their enemies, and that they ſhould name Hamburgh, Bremen, Lubeck, or ſome one or two

other commodious places, to open a Congreſs at. That this ſtep being made by Sweden, the Northern Allies could not refuſe, and her Majeſty would declare ſhe expected they ſhould not, to begin a treaty, ſince they have always pretended to be ready to enter into negociation, and have thrown the blame of not doing it upon the King of Sweden.

I endeavoured, in the beſt manner I was able, to ſhow this Miniſter, how irremediable their misfortunes were, unleſs they fell into the meaſures which thoſe powers preſcribed, from whom only they could expect aſſiſtance; I urged to him, the little proſpect there was of bringing the States-General, on any other foot, to concern themſelves for Sweden. I gave him to underſtand, that he might be aſſured, France, from whom, as guarantee of the treaty of Weſtphalia, and a natural friend and ally of Sweden's, they expected much, would be of the ſame opinion. I ſhowed him on the other hand, what they had to hope for, if once a treaty was begun; and inſinuated to him, that the Queen in that caſe, would be of opinion, as I ſuppoſe the reſt of their common friends would be alſo, to begin by agreeing a ſuſpenſion of arms, leaving things on all ſides in their preſent poſture, till, by a treaty of peace, they ſhould be finally adjuſted. After theſe ſeveral communications, in the reaſonableneſs of which, Gyllenberg very thankfully and decently acquieſced, I obſerved to him how neceſſary it was, that the Swediſh Miniſters who ſhall be appointed to treat, ſhould be furniſhed with abſolute powers, unclogged with thoſe preliminary conditions, contained in the powers given to the Count de Vellingh. I convinced him that ſuch as theſe would diſſolve the Congreſs as ſoon as it met, and that the giving of others would draw into no conſequence, which the King needed to apprehend, ſince by private inſtructions to his miniſters, he might direct them to make what uſe he ſhould think fit of the authority delegated to them. On the whole, he promiſed me to write, and I hope the anſwer will be ſuch as the intereſt of Sweden requires,

ſince

ſince not only all that King's Miniſters on this ſide of the world, do ſufficiently own the neceſſity there is of putting, by a treaty, an immediate ſtop to the torrent of ſucceſs which runs againſt them; but I likewiſe know, that the Count de Vellingh has ſent an expreſs to his maſter, to aſk new full powers of the ſort abovementioned, as the only means left to ſave his kingdom from immediate ruin.

The next perſon I ſpoke to, by her Majeſty's order, was Monſieur de Roſenkrantz, the Daniſh Envoy, and let him know, that I was commanded by the Queen to repreſent to him, that the ſituation of affairs in the North is ſo much altered, that the defenſive alliances, which, her Majeſty has with Sweden, are ſo hard preſſed upon her; that ſhe is reduced to a neceſſity of taking ſome part in theſe matters, and therefore thinks it the faireſt, and moſt friendly method ſhe can purſue, in time to communicate to them what engagement ſhe lies under; and to concert with them, the proper means of putting an end to the Northern war; that hitherto the Swedes have been, notwithſtanding all their misfortunes, averſe to treating; but, that her Majeſty hopes they are, at preſent, in another time of mind; that in this caſe, ſhe makes no doubt but that the Northern Allies, will be equally ready to ſet a negociation on foot, as they have always pretended to be. I added pretty ſtrong inſinuations, that as the Queen and the States-General cannot, on many accounts, be tame ſpectators of the deſtruction of Sweden; ſo neither can France avoid to enter into ſome concert on this head, as a guarantee of the treaty of Weſtphalia; provided the Swedes will depart from that ſtiffneſs, which they have hitherto ſhown, and ſubmit to treat. After this I ſpoke to Monſieur de Roſencrantz likewiſe, upon the ſubject of Holſtein; the ſubſtance of what I ſaid to him was, in ſhort, that while the Swedes continued in Tonninghen, there was a plauſible pretence, that the neutrality was not broken by Denmark; but now the Swedes are gone,

that pretence is, at the ſame time, removed; wherefore the Queen would be very ſorry, that her Nephew, who profeſſes always ſo great a regard for her, ſhould, by keeping a forcible poſſeſſion of the Ducal territories, reduce her Majeſty to the dilemma, either of forfeiting her honour by not keeping up to her engagements, or of oppoſing him. In return to all this, the Daniſh Miniſter promiſed to make a faithful report to his maſter; aſſured before-hand that the King would be ready to enter into a treaty, earneſtly begged, that the Queen would guide matters in ſuch a manner as to annex to Denmark, the Ducal Holſtein and Sleſwick; that to facilitate this, ſhe would connive at the King's continuing the poſſeſſion he now has; he made me underſtand, that if ſuch hopes were privately inſinuated, the King would not only treat, but conclude too, in ſuch manner as the Queen ſhould direct, without being much concerned what event the negociations of his allies had: your Grace will eaſily judge that I could give him no encouragement of this ſort; but on the contrary, I deſired him to depend on what I had before told him, as the Queen's ultimate reſolution, by complying with which, his maſter had more to expect, than he could have any other way.

Since my ſpeaking to his Miniſter, I have likewiſe, according to the Queen's command, ſpoke pretty nearly to the ſame purpoſe to the Baron de Schack, the Czar's Envoy, and to Monſieur d'Elorme, the reſident of King Auguſtus; to the former I ſoftened my ſtyle as much as I could, without altering the ſenſe of what I was to impart to him; becauſe as we have leſs pretence to preſs the Czar, than we have to preſs his two allies, ſo has he much leſs to apprehend from us, then they: both theſe Miniſters promiſed to make report of what I had communicated to them; but the Muſcovite ſeemed, by the manner in which he expreſſed himſelf, not to promiſe much forwardneſs in his maſter to treat, much eaſineſs when he did treat, or any inclination to ſtop the progreſs of his

arms,

arms, till he had obtained from Sweden, the ceſſion of all thoſe Provinces, which lie round the Gulph of Finland; moſt of which were, I believe by Charles Guſtavus, taken from one of the Czar's predeceſſors.

The ſame accounts, as I have now the honour to tranſmit to your Grace, I have given to the Queen's Ambaſſadors at Utrecht; and their Excellencies are inſtructed to endeavour, by all poſſible means, to bring the States up to concur in theſe meaſures with her Majeſty, in which caſe, the Queen may venture to advance farther in this cauſe, and without which, it will be a queſtion of great nicety on many accounts, how the Queen ought in prudence to proceed, in reſpect to this northern quarrel.

I have ſaid enough to the Duke d'Aumont on this head of buſineſs, to draw ſome uſe out of him; and by the things which he has let drop, at my deſire, to the Miniſters of Denmark, of Saxony, and of Muſcovy, concerning his maſter's regard for, and alliances with the Crown of Sweden; and concerning the obligations, which lay upon him, as a guarantee of the treaty of Weſtphalia; I believe theſe Miniſters will have conceived ſome farther apprehenſion, which they may communicate to their Courts, and thereby diſpoſe them the more readily to accept the offer, which we propoſe Sweden ſhould make of treating.

The Queen, my Lord, has had two ſuſpicions, concerning the intentions of France, neither of which want probability; though, at the firſt view, they have been repugnant to each other; her Majeſty has ſometimes inclined to think, that, whilſt the war with the Emperor and Empire continues, France might be willing rather to protract than to aſſiſt in ending the diſputes of the Northern Princes; and ſhe has had reaſon to imagine, from ſome paſſages which have happened, that the French Miniſters are labouring to get the mediation of this treaty, whenever it ſhall be ſet on foot, into their hands. I mention theſe particulars merely as hints to your Grace What are the real intentions of France, you will much ſooner diſcover, and it is from you that we muſt

expect

expect the information. In the mean time, her Majeſty thinks your Grace would do well to acquaint the French Miniſters in general, with her ſentiments concerning the affairs of the North, and with the ſteps ſhe has taken, in order to bring things there to ſome terms of treaty, on which the preſervation of Sweden depends. Thus far the offices of France muſt be of uſe, and cannot poſſibly be of prejudice. It were therefore to be wiſhed that the French Miniſters would ſpeak (as I ſuppoſe your Grace will think fit to do) to Monſieur Cronſtroom, to the ſame effect as I ſpoke to the Count Gyllenberg; in order to let the Swedes perceive, that the ſetting a negociation on foot, is a ſtep, which all their friends judge neceſſary, and concur in expecting from them. It will likewiſe render the Northern Allies more tractable, and diſpoſe them to think more ſeriouſly of peace, if the French Miniſters make the proper inſinuations of their maſter's engagements to aſſiſt Sweden, and if they give ground to apprehend, that he intends to perform them. If a treaty is entered upon, it will then be more difficult to conduct ourſelves between the oppoſite intereſts, and to determine what part it may be reaſonable to let France have in the negociation; on this we ſhall have time to turn our thoughts. In the mean while, I ſhall only obſerve to your Grace, that the demands of the Czar are likely to be, of all others, the moſt exorbitant, ſuch as will go the hardeſt down with Sweden, and ſuch as will perhaps chiefly affect the commerce of the Baltick. Now France is the power, which can beſt be played off to oppoſe the Muſcovite, and reduce him within terms that can be ſafely granted: Britain drives, as your Grace knows, a trade of great conſequence to Muſcovy, and our merchants are, upon the leaſt appearance of diſpute, in the utmoſt conſternation, not only for fear of loſing that beneficial commerce, but for ſeizure, and other inſtances of ill treatment. Holland is always on the watch to make advantage of any breach between us and the Czar, and this mercantile view is perhaps

the chief inducement, which the States have, to effect a backwardneſs in taking meaſures themſelves about Northern affairs, and to leave as much as they can the firſt poſt and the labouring oar to the Queen.

I have now given your Grace, purſuant to my orders, the beſt account I am able of her Majeſty's views, with reſpect to the North, which is a ſufficient inſtruction to your Grace, who will know, much better than I can pretend to, how to promote them at the Court where you are.

Before I conclude this letter, I muſt mention another matter to your Grace, which the people intereſted think neceſſary, and which I ſuppoſe can meet with no objection in France.

In Monſieur de Pontchartrain's letter to the Marquis de Vaudrueil, the latter is directed to yield the forts and ſettlements belonging to the Hudſon's Bay Company; this order, my Lord, the merchants are afraid will not anſwer their ends, they are diſpatching two ſhips directly to the Bay, which being at a conſiderable diſtance from Quebec, where the Marquis de Vaudrueil reſides, the French who are in poſſeſſion of the forts on the Bay, may either be ignorant or pretend ignorance of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty's orders, may refuſe to evacuate theſe places, and the ſeaſon may by conſequence be loſt, which your Grace knows continues in theſe Northern Seas but a very few months; the merchants therefore deſire, and her Majeſty would have your Grace endeavour to obtain, either direct orders to the commanders in theſe places, or authentic duplicates of the orders ſent to the Marquis de Vaudrueil, which may be put into the hands of the officer appointed to go to the Bay of Hudſon, and to take poſſeſſion of the places which the French are to evacuate.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, May 29th, 1713.

I CANNOT, my Lord, forbear taking this opportunity, by a private letter, to give your Grace ſome idea of the preſent ſtate of our domeſtic affairs. If you have better accounts from other hands, you will be good enough to forgive my impertinence.

The laying of the treaties before the Houſes of Parliament, has undeceived ſo many people, who had been impoſed upon, and induced to believe the groſſeſt abſurdities, that the oppoſite party ſeem to hope for no ſucceſs, either within or without the Parliament-walls, by attacking the terms of peace or meaſures of the negociation; but they endeavour to raiſe a clamour againſt any commerce with France, as deſtructive to the manufactures of Britain, and to procure from the weavers, clothiers, and others, petitions of this ſort. Multitudes of papers are called for by the Houſe of Lords, ſeveral days have been ſpent in very unneceſſary reading, others will be as idly conſumed, and I am much out in my judgment, if the aim of the Whig managers be not ſo to perplex the cauſe, and to retard the progreſs of the bill expected from the Houſe of Commons, ſo as to hinder the ninth article in the treaty of commerce from being made effectual this year.

The benefit they expect from hence, is to be able to clamour at elections, and to leave it a moot point, whether the bargain made by the Queen be good or not: this meaſure we muſt break, and I hope we ſhall not want ſtrength to do it. Though the Scotch, both Lords and Commoners are in a high mutiny, on account of loſing the proportion of the malt duty, which they deſired might have been leſſened in their favour, and which certainly ought to have been granted them,

We are working up hill in this caſe, as we did in that of the peerage, and I think the ferment runs higher.

Your Grace will wonder, when I tell you that they intend to move in our Houſe on Monday, to diſſolve the union. You may be ſure, that all thoſe whoſe ſpirits are naturally turbulent and reſtleſs, all thoſe who have languiſhed under expectation, and all thoſe who have any perſonal reſentment, take this occaſion to add to the cry, and to purſue their own views, by intermingling them in this cauſe. In the mean while, we act as if we had nothing to do, but get this ſeſſion over any how. No principal of government eſtabliſhed and avowed, nobody but my Lord Treaſurer, and he cannot be in every place and ſpeak to every man, able to hold out hopes and fears, or give a poſitive anſwer to any one queſtion. I repreſent theſe things nakedly to your Grace, as I conceive them, and I think I do right, not only becauſe this is a due return to that friendſhip, which you have been pleaſed to honour me with, but, becauſe I am ſure I do the Queen and my Lord Treaſurer too the beſt ſervice, when I endeavour to apprize your Grace of the true ſtate of our government, who are ſo well able to improve what is good, and to correct what is amiſs.

Your entry being over, you will to be ſure haſten your return, and I ſuppoſe, we may expect to ſee your Grace at the riſing of the Parliament, that is to ſay, in a month. It almoſt ſlipped me to tell your Grace, that the firſt ſtep which the Scotch made, was, to depute the Duke of Argyle, the Earls of Mar, Lockart, and Cockburne, to the Queen, to tell her of the reſolution they were come to. They had no reaſon to be much pleaſed with the Queen's reception of them, or with her anſwer to them. Indeed, this heat, which is blown up by two or three people, will not turn to good account; for inſtead of hurting the Treaſurer, at whom they aim, they have made the diſpute national,

though in the Lower Houſe, they have to a man joined the Whigs in ſeveral diviſions, yet have they been baffled by great majorities. A call of the Houſe is ordered below ſtairs, and above we ſhall I believe, ground, on their motion, a bill, to make it high treaſon, by any overt act, to attempt the diſſolution of the union.

If after this we go on to ſhow them all reaſonable indulgence, and at the ſame time to ſhow to them and to all mankind, a firmneſs of reſolution, and a ſteadineſs of conduct, good will have come out of evil, and we ſhall reap ſome benefit from this *contretems*.

We ſhall ſoon ſee the fate of the bill for making good, on our part, the 9th article of the treaty of commerce, after which, the Commiſſaries muſt meet. I believe it will be of uſe, to inſinuate to Monſieur de Torcy, that as, among other things, the factious people here intend, by their oppoſition to the ſettlement of any trade with France, to keep the nations eſtranged from each other, to cultivate the prejudices which have been formerly raiſed, and which, during two long wars, have taken deep root, and alſo to prevent the wearing them out, which would be the natural neceſſary conſequence of an open advantageous trade; ſo we on our part, and the Miniſters of France on theirs, ought to counterwork theſe deſigns, and to finiſh what relates to commerce, more in the character of Stateſmen, than of merchants. We ſhall be careful to chooſe ſuch Commiſſioners as will anſwer this end, and we hope thoſe of France, who are, I ſuppoſe, the two perſons already here, will be inſtructed accordingly.

I cannot yet ſay thing more to your Grace, of Prior, nor of the perſon who is to ſucceed you. I ſuppoſe you will ſend d'Alegre hither. The Queen has been in exceſſive pain with the gout, but yeſterday ſhe ſuffered leſs, we hope the fit is over.

Can you forgive me, my Lord, for troubling you with two

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ſuch letters at once? Indeed, I put your Grace's goodneſs to a ſevere trial.

I am, my Lord, by inclination and by gratitude, with great truth,

Your Grace's, &c.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Marli, 22me Mai, 1713.

L'ABBE Gaultier étoit ſûr, Monſieur, d'une bonne reception, & de la joie que j'aurois de le voir, en m'apportant les deux lettres qu'il m'a rendues de votre part. Il n'y a rien, je vous aſſure, qui puiſſe me faire plus de plaiſir que les marques de la continuation de l'honneur de votre amitié ; je n'oublierai rien pour la conſerver, & je vous ſupplie de croire, que je compte abſolument ſur les aſſurances que vous m'en avez données, ſâchent parfaitement, Monſieur, quelle eſt votre conſtance à l'égard de ceux que vous mettez au nombre de vos amis.

Voilà une profeſſion très véritable & très ſérieuſe de mes ſentimens que je dépoſe entre vos mains, & ſi malheureuſement il m'eſt échappé quelque mauvaiſe plaiſanterie, qui devient encore plus mauvaiſe quand la mer eſt entre deux, & qu'il faut une explication, je déclare que je déteſte tout ce qui a pu paroître contraire à mes véritables penſées, que je le regarde comme l'ouvrage du malin eſprit, qui fait ſouvent parler les femmes contre la vérité, & engage les hommes à répéter leurs diſcours.

Sérieuſement, my Lord, je ne finirois point, ſi je voulois vous dire à quel point j'ai été mortifié de ce que l'Abbé Gaultier m'a confié, mais je me rapporterai à ce que je lui dirai ſur cet article, lorſqu'il rétournera auprès de vous. En attendant, ſoyez, je vous ſupplie, perſuadé, que je croirois tout perdre, ſi l'amitie que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de me promettre, recevroit quelque altération par ma faute.

Je ne pouvois mieux faire connoître au Roi, de quelle manière vous avez reçu ce que ſa Majeſté avoit ordonné à Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont de vous dire, qu'en lui liſant l'article même de votre lettre. Vous pouvez compter, my Lord, que ſes ſentimens pour vous ſont tel que vous les méritez de tous ceux qui vous connoiſſent & perſonellement & par vos ouvrages.

Celui de la paix univerſelle trouve encore des empêchemens de la part de la Cour de Vienne, comme vous en êtes informé par Meſſieurs vos Plénipotentiaires, mais j'avoue que, j'ai peine à croire, que ces difficultés ſubſiſtent long-tems, & qu'une puiſſance, qui n'avoit pu faire la guerre, ſi elle n'avoit été ſoutenue par les alliés qu'elle à perdus, ſoit en état d'agir par ſes ſeules forces, après douze ans que cette guerre a duré.

J'eſpère donc que les réflexions ſages ſuccéderont à ce premier dépit, & rien n'eſt plus capable de les inſpirer que beaucoup de fermeté de la part du Roi, dans les réſolutions que ſa Majeſté a priſes, & un concert parfait avec la Reine. Je ſouhaite qu'elle approve la propoſition que Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont doit lui faire, de mettre l'Electeur de Bavière, comme il eſt très facile, en poſſeſſion de la Sardagne ; on ne perſuadera certainement la maiſon d'Autriche qu'en lui faiſant voir, que les dommages de la guerre peuvent tomber ſur elle auſſi-bien que ſur les Princes de l'Empire, & ſi dans la ſuite on pouvoit lui donner de juſtes inquietudes du côté d'Italie, on verroit bientôt un eſprit plus pacifique dans ſes projets.

Il ne tiendra pas à vous, my Lord, qu'elle ne faſſe juſtice au Duc de St. Pierre, je ne ſais plus de quelles expreſſions me ſervir pour vous rendre grâces de votre attention à ſes intérêts, & des effets qu'elle produit. Si l'Empereur entend la raiſon ſur la paix, je ſuis perſuadé que vous la lui ferez entendre auſſi ſur les dédommagemens qu'il doit. Je n'oſe porter mes très humbles remercîmens envers la grande Reine au nom de qui

vous

vous envoyez les ordres à Utrecht, mais ſi vous croyez, my Lord, que le reſpect me le permette, je vous ſupplie de parler pour moi, & certainement vous direz mieux ce que je penſe, que je le pourrois exprimer moi-même.

J'ai partagé avec Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury, la joie de trouver une occaſion de faire voir la bonne-foi de la France, dans l'égard que le Roi a eu, à les repréſentations au ſujet de la déclaration, qu'il a demandée. C'eſt à vous préſentement, my Lord, à nous venger de toutes les injures qu'on vomit contre nous à Ratiſbonne. En vérité, on trouve avec les Allemands bien des occaſions d'appliquer—*leurs Excellences ſont ivres.*

J'attends avec beaucoup d'impatience la nouvelle du départ du Marquis de Montéleon, & de ſon arrivée à Utrecht; s'il ſuivoit ſon goût, je ſuis perſuadé qu'il ne ſortiroit point de Londres, pour paſſer en Hollande; mais ſa préſence y eſt bien néceſſaire, & les affaires ne finiront jamais, s'il en laiſſe le ſoin à ſon collégue. Vous éprouvez, my Lord, qu'il y a des points où la Cour d'Eſpagne eſt difficile, jugez préſentement ſi la France la gouvernoit. Je vous aſſure que c'eſt un grand bonheur, que Montéleon ait été choiſi pour la négociation de Londres, & que tout autre que lui, avec les ordres de Madrid, auroit laiſſé long-tems traîner l'affaire, dont il étoit chargé.

L'Abbé Gaultier m'a parlé de vous pour l'établiſſement du commerce avec la Flandre Françoiſe. Outre la diſpoſition que j'ai à louer tout ce qui vient des perſonnages qu'il m'a nommés, je crois, my Lord, que ſans aucune prévention, rien ne ſera meilleur pour les deux nations. Mais vous comblez le port de Dunkerque, qui ſerviroit infiniment à ce commerce, & qui ne devroit vous cauſer aucune crainte, toutes les fortifications, tant de terre que de mer, étant raſées, & la ville demeurant ville marchande. Voilà tout ce que je vous dirai ſur cet ar-

ticle, car il ne faut pas donner à vos Whigs le plaiſir de dire que la France veut revenir contre les promeſſes ſolennelles qu'elle a faites.

Nos Whigs dont vous me parlez, my Lord, n'aiment plus tant les Hollandois depuis qu'ils ont fait la paix, mais ils aſſurent que nous ne pouvons faire aucun mal à l'Empereur & à l'Empire, & que nous avons tout à craindre de la puiſſance du corps Germanique.

Vous payez le plaiſir que j'ai à vous écrire, car je ne puis finir une lettre dont la longue lecture vous ennuyera; il faut donc ſupprimer tout ce que j'aurois encore à vous dire, ſi je voulois vous exprimer, my Lord, mes ſentimens pour vous, fondés ſur l'eſtime la plus parfaite, & vous aſſurer, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce 31me Mai, 1713.

JE me ſers de l'occaſion que me fournit le courier que je dépêche à Monſieur le Duc de Shrewſbury, pour vous rendre mes très humbles remercîmens de ce que vous voulez bien me continuer l'honneur de votre amitié, & m'en renouveller les aſſurances, d'une manière ſi obligeante. Je compte abſolument là-deſſus. Je connois votre cœur, & je connois le mien. Je ſuis incapable de faire la moindre faute, par où je puiſſe mériter que votre amitié reçoive à mon égard quelque altération, & vous êtes trop juſte pour vouloir, ſans raiſon, me priver d'un bien que vous m'avez ſi généreuſement donné, & que j'eſtime plus que ma vie.

Ne faites donc, Monſieur, je vous en conjure, plus de réflexion ſur l'accident dont l'Abbé Gaultier vous a parlé, puiſque je m'en ſuis ouvert; vous devez être perſuadé qu'il ne cauſa aucune mauvaiſe impreſ-

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ſion ſur mon eſprit. Je n'ai pas pu, je vous l'avoue, m'empêcher de rire un peu avec l'Abbé, ſur les inconvéniens, où ceux qui s'amuſent à faire de fauſſes confidences, & à jouer le perſonnage de Miniſtre mal-à-propos, ſont ſujets à tomber. Je compte, Monſieur, comme vous, que des réflexions ſages ſuccéderont au premier dépit, & que la Cour de Vienne changera bientôt de langage, peut-être n'a-t-elle en vue que de changer de ſcène, & conclure la paix ailleurs qu'à Utrecht.

Je n'entre pas dans aucune détail ſur ce ſujet, parce que j'en ai parlé fort au long avec Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont, ſur ce qu'il m'avoit communiqué. Vous ſerez, Monſieur, peut-être ſurpris d'abord de ſavoir que les factieux chez nous remuent ciel & terre, pour empêcher que le 9me article du traité de commerce aſſortiſſe ſon effet, mais vous ceſſerez d'être ſurpris, quand vous prendrez la peine de conſidérer, que ces gens ſont au déſeſpoir de ce que les préjugés, dont ils avoient rempli l'eſprit de notre peuple, ſe diſſipent. Ils ſavent que le moyen le plus ſûr pour réunir nos deux nations, par des liens d'amitié indiſſolubles, eſt de faire revivre un commerce libre & avantageux, ce ſeroit la ruine du plan, ſur lequel ils ont travaillé de tout tems, & depuis vingt-et-cinque ans, avec trop de ſuccès.

Nous nous appliquerons ſans ceſſe à faire échouer tous les deſſeins de ces mal-intentionnés, & le concert parfait qui eſt établi, & qu'il faut maintenir entre les deux cours, nous mettra en état de réuſſir.

J'aurai l'honneur, Monſieur, de vous écrire dans peu fort, amplement ſur ce ſujet, & ſur celui de Dunkerque; mais à préſent que nous ſommes au milieu d'une ſéance de Parlement, les affaires domeſtiques nous accablent, & ne nous donnent pas tout le tems qu'il ſeroit néceſſaire d'employer à celles du dehors. On ne laiſſe pas de faire attention à la guerre du Nord, & à la ſituation de la Suède, & Monſieur de Shrewſbury ne manquera pas de vous entretenir ſur ces points.

Ma lettre devient inſenſiblement trop longue; je le ſais, & pourtant à peine puis-je me reſoudre de la finir. Je me dérobe des intrigues des factieux, des débats d'une aſſemblée populaire, pour écrire à l'homme du monde que j'eſtime plus parfaitement; jugez ſi je n'ai pas raiſon de faire durer un ſi doux plaiſir le plus long-tems qu'il me ſoit poſſible.

To Mr. Prior.

31ſt May, 1713.

I AM to acknowledge the letters of the 2d, 10th, and 21ſt inſtant, N.S.

You know enough of the conſtitution of your own country, and of the ſtate of our Court, not to be ſurpriſed if, at this time, in the middle of a ſeſſion of Parliament, I am neither very punctual nor very particular in my correſpondence. You may be ſure your recovery, from ſo dangerous a diſtemper is matter of great ſatisfaction to one, who thinks you as uſeful as I do to the public, and who hopes to paſs hereafter ſo many agreeable hours in your company.

The ſubſtance of all your letters to me is now out of doors, thoſe heads of buſineſs having been finiſhed, and, I hope, very ſucceſsfully, notwithſtanding the difficulty, which there was in the nature of ſome of them, and the diſadvantages, which we lay under in treating all of them. I can yet ſay nothing to you either of your journey to Piémont, or of the election of the perſon who is to ſucceed the Duke of Shrewſbury in France: you know we are always ſlow in taking our reſolutions, as well as in putting them in execution, when they are taken; and the preſent ferment and hurry of domeſtic buſineſs, contributes

to

to make us more ſo; for my own part, I am quite worn out with diſagreeable labour.

Having received a letter of compliments from Monſieur de Torcy, to which I have made an anſwer, I give you the trouble of incloſing it to you.

I cannot omit mentioning to you a thing, which I ſpoke of, in one of my letters to the Duke of Shrewſbury, and which, in my opinion, is of a good deal of conſequence, towards confirming that peace and friendſhip, which the late treaty eſtabliſhes between the two nations.

The Whigs, who have been beat off from all their other attacks, ſeem to fix themſelves on the treaty of commerce, as their laſt hold, and endeavour to raiſe a ferment among the people, by ſcanning, ſtraining, and miſrepreſenting every article, nay, every ſyllable in it; and propagating with wonderful induſtry, that all trade whatever with France is prejudicial to Britain. The French Miniſters will eaſily ſee, I ſuppoſe, and if they do not, they ought to be ſhown, that this, among other views, is calculated to hinder thoſe prejudices, which our people have been poſſeſſed with againſt France, and which begin now to wear off, from being extinguiſhed; to keep up the ſtrangeneſs between the two nations, and to preſerve ſuch a temper of mind, in our people, as may diſpoſe them, upon every ſlight occaſion, to a diſpute with France. Now the moſt effectual way of preventing this, is certainly an open and advantageous commerce between the two kingdoms. Nothing unites like intereſt; and when once our people have felt the ſweet of carrying on a trade to France, under reaſonable regulations, the artifices of Whigiſm will have the leſs effect amongſt them. As this is true, ſo it is proper enough to be inſinuated to the French Miniſters, and, it is to be hoped, will make them more eaſy in the ſettlement of ſuch points, as remain ſtill to be decided, relating to commerce.

The Duke d'Aumont having ſpoke to me upon two or three heads, which have not been mentioned by the Duke of Shrewſbury, I ſend you an account, which I deſire you will communicate to his Grace, and the anſwers I returned to them.

Adieu, Dear Matt; may you, whilſt your friends are drudging in the midſt of faction, live an eaſy life with little buſineſs, and may you have as much pleaſure as you deſire or are able to take.

B.

A Monſieur le Marquis de Monteleon.

De Whitehall, ce 1me Juin, 1713.

COMME votre Excellence eſt préſentement arrivée à Utrecht, je commence à profiter, Monſieur, de la permiſſion qu'elle m'a donnée de lui écrire de tems en tems. Outre l'avantage, que dans mon particulier je retirerai de cette correſpondance, nous pourrons, peut-être, par ce moyen, avancer les intérêts réciproques de nos deux Cours, & fortifier cette amitié & cette bonne intelligence, dont nous avons eu l'honneur de jeter les premiers fondemens. Mais l'expédient infaillible pour cet effet, & qui ne manqueroit pas de rendre les nœuds de l'union entre la Grande Bretagne & l'Eſpagne indiſſolubles, ſeroit votre préſence, Monſieur, dans ce pays.

Je ſuis tellement perſuadé de cette vérité, que je ne puis pas m'empêcher de vous renouveller mes inſtances, afin que vous preniez toutes les meſures, qu'il vous convient de prendre, pour nous revoir; & je vous aſſure que je ſonne la même choſe, tous les jours, dans les oreilles de Don Patricio. Je n'ai pas manqué de faire vos complimens à la Reine, & vous devez compter, Monſieur, que dans toutes les occaſions ſa

Majeſté vous donnera les marques les plus réelles de l'eſtime qu'elle à pour votre perſonne, & du cas qu'elle fait de votre mérite.

J'eſpère, Monſieur, que vous ne tarderez pas à ſigner le traité de paix que nous avons arrêté ici, d'autant plus que je vois, qu'au fonds le Roi Catholique ſera fort content de l'article de la religion, celui des Catalans étant dreſſé à ſa ſatisfaction. Au nom de Dieu, qu'on ne perde point de tems à vous envoyer les ratifications en blanc, ſelon ce que nous avions projeté.

Je perſiſte, à l'égard des Allemands, dans mes premiers ſentimens. Ils ſigneront la paix, mais, ſages comme ils ſont, ils accepteront, plutôt que de ſigner à Utrecht, peut-être des plus mauvaiſes conditions.

J'écris par cette poſte à Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Reine ſur les intérêts de la Princeſſe des Urſins. Comme l'Empereur diffère ſon accommodement, & comme, ſelon les apparences, on va changer le théâtre de la négociation, il ſeroit à-propos de concerter, ſans perte de tems, les meſures que nous prendrons, & d'y faire entrer les Hollandois.

Adieu, mon chez Monſieur, faites-moi la juſtice de croire que je ſuis, & que je ſerai toute ma vie, avec un attachement très ſincère,

De votre Excellence, &c.

To the Earl of Orrery.

My Dear Lord,

Whitehall, June 9th, 1713.

WHEN Captain Plat arrived with your Lordſhip's letter of the 5th of this month, N.S. the Queen's indiſpoſition, who had then a ſevere and painful fit of the gout upon her, hindered me for a few days from receiving her commands; ſince that time her Majeſty has been under ſome difficulty what to determine, becauſe on one hand ſhe thinks it, at this point of time, of the utmoſt ill conſequence to her ſervice, that

there ſhould be the leaſt interval, wherein her authority in the Spaniſh Netherlands may remain unexerted, and on the other hand ſhe is willing to comply with what your Lordſhip ſeems ſo earneſtly to preſs. If the perſon ſhe intended to ſend could have gone immediately, there would have been no heſitation, and care would have been taken that he might have arrived at Bruſſels, as ſoon as your Lordſhip had left the place. However, the Queen has at laſt commanded me to let your Lordſhip know, that if you inſiſt on coming over now, ſhe gives way to it, and allows you ſo to do. We muſt in this caſe diſpatch ſomebody or other, who I cannot yet tell you, to enforce the execution of the proviſional ſettlement of commerce, concluded at Utrecht, which will certainly not go down very eaſily, and to take care of other matters which ſeem to her Majeſty to require a conſtant uninterrupted application.

In my own particular, I ſhall have a very great ſatisfaction in embracing you here, and in aſſuring you by word of mouth how ſincerely

I am, my dear Lord,

Your faithful, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY DEAR LORD,

Whitehall, June 9th, 1713.

I COMPLAINED in one of my office-letters of the unconſcionable hurry of buſineſs, which at preſent takes up all our time, and almoſt diſtracts our thoughts, and my complaint was not without reaſon. From the treaty of commerce, the Whigs take a handle of debate; and they uſe their utmoſt efforts, either to find fault with particular paſſages and parts of it, or if that fails, to eſtabliſh a maxim that all commerce with France

is ruinous to Britain. The field is large, and we have few workmen; your Excellency from hence will eaſily judge how hard the taſk muſt lie upon ſome of your humble ſervants.

What you ſaid to Bothmar, was but too well founded, and would have its due impreſſion, was he wiſe enough to weigh it as he ought, but I gave him over long ago as incorrigible.

I think, my dear Lord, juſt as you do, as to Sabine's proceedings, and Lord Orrery's demanding ſingly for the Queen's troops. As to the former, it is in the Duke of Ormond's hands, to whom I have earneſtly recommended the care of it; as to the latter point, I have ſaid nothing to my Lord Orrery, becauſe I look on him to be determined to come over hither immediately, although I think, and have told him, that the ſervice at this time will ſuffer, if there be any the leaſt interruption of the exerciſe of the Queen's authority in the Netherlands.

The biggeſt ſhips of Sir J. Jenning's ſquadron are called home, but he continues in the Mediterranean with a ſquadron ſufficient for the ſervice of Sicily, and for that of tranſporting the troops from Catalonia; we look upon it to be half over.

I cannot enough thank your Lordſhip for your goodneſs to my brother, whom I will diſown for ſuch, if he does not always behave himſelf as the obligations, you have been pleaſed to lay on him, deſerve at his hands.

I am, &c.

A Monſieur

A Monſieur le Marquis de Monteleon.

De Whitehall, ce 9me Juin, 1713.

JE réponds, Monſieur, en même-tems à votre lettre du 7me N.S. & à celle que le Comte de Lecheraine * m'a remiſe de votre part.

La nouvelle que votre Excellence m' annonce, que les ratifications viendront dans les termes que nous l'avions projeté, me conſole; ſans cela, je vous avoue, que j'aurois été au déſeſpoir des longueurs de votre collégue. Enſeignez au Duc d'Oſſune, qu'en politique, comme en amour, il ne faut pas perdre les occaſions favorables, ni s'expoſer aux événemens qui peuvent arriver.

Je ſuis très faché de voir dans la lettre de la Princeſſe des Urſins quelques traits d'aigreur; ce qui ſe trouve dans le traité eſt conforme, ſi je ne me trompe, aux termes dans leſquels la première propoſition, en faveur de cette Princeſſe, a été faite de la part de France. Mais, Monſieur, vous ſavez quelles ſont les intentions de la Reine, & quelles ſont les meſures qu'elle eſt toute prête à prendre.

Pardonnez à la hâte dans laquelle je vous écris, & croyez que je ſuis, & que je ſerai toute ma vie, avec une eſtime très parfaite,

Monſieur, de votre Excellence, &c.

J'avois oublié de remercier votre Excellence de la lettre qu'elle a bien voulu prendre la peine de m'écrire du 16me de ce mois.

Au nom de Dieu, finiſſez le traité, & revenez ici. Si votre cour pouvoit voir la ſuite d'une telle réſolution, comme nous le voyons, elle ne balanceroit pas un moment à vous envoyer à Londres d'abord que vous aviez fini à Utrecht.

* Envoy from the Elector Palatine.

A Monſieur

A Monſieur le Comte de Montijo.

De Whitehall, ce 19me Juin, 1713.

J'AI aimé bien de fois, mon très cher & très aimable Comte, dans ma vie, mais je ne me ſouviens pas d'avoir jamais ſenti, en quittant une maîtreſſe, des douleurs ſi vives que celles qui m'ont pénétrés le cœur en me ſéparant de vous, ni d'avoir reçu aucun billet-doux qui m'ait fait un plaiſir égal à celui que m'a cauſé votre lettre. Les officiers de la Reine, que vous avez trouvé dans nos garniſons, n'ont fait que leur devoir en vous rendant les honneurs qui dépendoient d'eux. S'ils y avoient manqué, ils ſe ſeroient aſſurément attiré la colère de tout ce qu'il y a chez nous de galans hommes & de jolies femmes.

Madame Marſchalch a été dans ce pays il y a un an & demi. Nous avons été touchés de ſa beauté, & nous ſerons ravis de la revoir. Pour répondre aux bonnes nouvelles que vous m'annoncez, je vous dirai, que Madame de Richmond, & Madame de Newbury vous font leurs complimens, & vous prient de ne pas les oublier; Madame de Berkley compte bien que vous vous ſouviendrez d'elle.

Je vous envoie ci-joint le chiffre que je vous ai promis; aimez-moi toujours, & comptez que j'ai pour vous un cœur rempli de tendreſſe & d'eſtime. Adieu, mon cher ami, les larmes me viennent aux yeux en finiſſant ma lettre: encore un coup, adieu. Je ſuis, & je ſerai toute ma vie, du fond de mon ame, votre très fidelle, &c.

Wyndham, le vieux ſoldat, et le Duc, vous aſſurent de toute leur eſtime, & d'un ſouvenir éternel, il n'y a pas au monde un endroit où on vous regrette plus qu'à Cracco Hall.

Je ſuis obligé de différer à vous envoyer le chiffre juſqu'à la ſemaine prochaine.

To the Earl of Strafford.

My Lord,

Whitehall, June 20th, 1713.

THOUGH I do not anſwer the public diſpatch, which came to my hands this morning, you will allow me, by this meſſenger, to return your Excellency my humble thanks for the favour of your private letter of the 28th, N.S.

I can never ſufficiently acknowledge the goodneſs which you are pleaſed to ſhow my brother, and particularly that inſtance of it, the telling him plainly what he ought to do. I entreat your Excellency to go on with this charity, for ſuch it is to a young fellow of his inexperience, and to check him where you find him faulty. I would gladly have him good for ſomething; and if he neglects the preſent opportunity of making himſelf ſo, I ſhall deſpair of him.

I have ſpoke to the Duke of Ormond very freely concerning the complaints which come from Flanders, I will do ſo again, and I hope he will give effectual orders for redreſſing grievances which make ſo much noiſe. I am really not able to anſwer what you aſk concerning the embaſſy of France, but I may perhaps be ſo in a ſhort time, in the mean while, I take the hints you give me, and will improve them as becomes your ſervant and friend.

The Marquis de Montéleon does me juſtice in what he repreſents to your Excellency of the ſentiments I have for you; I value myſelf on my frankneſs, and no conſideration on earth ſhall ever make me depart from it.

We

We got luckily over the difficulty about the Scotch *, and they are all returned again to their colours; but we have a late defection, of more danger.—When the Bill for making effectual the 8th and 9th articles † of the treaty of commerce with France was committed in the Houſe of Commons, Sir Thomas Hanmer and ſome of our friends below ſtairs, Lord Angleſea and ſome of our friends above ſtairs, grew ſqueamiſh, and began to think, or to ſay they thought, that this Bill ought to be put off till next ſeſſion, becauſe the elections might be prejudiced by paſſing an act, concerning which the opinions of mankind were divided. The Court were willing to have dropped the Bill, rather than to have made a breach among our friends; but the body of the Tories abſolutely refuſed to part with it. On Thurſday, the debate laſted till eleven at night, when the Bill was loſt, by 194 againſt 185‡. The reaſon of this majority was, that there had been, during two or three days' uncertainty, an opinion ſpread, that Lord Treaſurer gave up the point. If this was intended to hurt the Court, it was no very wiſe nor grateful part in ſome people: it will have the contrary effect; for every day the prejudices ceaſe, and the nation becomes ſenſible of their true intereſt. I believe, and I hope, theſe events will put the Queen upon more vigorous meaſures than our government has

* This aroſe upon the Malt-bill, laying a duty of 6d. per buſhel upon that article, whether uſed in England or Scotland, which was carried in the Committee by a majority of one only; but upon the queſtion for the engroſſment of the bill, the numbers were 139 and 104, and for the paſſing of the bill, 197 and 52.

† The eighth article related to the treatment of the ſubjects of each Crown in the other's territories, in the ſame manner as the then moſt favoured nation. The ninth article related to a reduction of the duties payable in Great Britain upon French commodities, which were to be lowered to what other nations pay for the like goods: it ſtated the tarif of 1664, and other particulars mentioned in the foregoing letters.

‡ But to ſoften the rejection of this Bill, Sir Thomas Hanmer moved for an Addreſs—To thank her Majeſty for the peace, which provided for the ſecurity of the nation. It then ſtated, that the good foundation her Majeſty had laid for the intereſt of trade, by what had been done in the treaty of navigation and commerce, gave hopes of ſeeing it farther improved under Commiſſaries to be appointed, &c.

been uſed to. In the mean time, the Dutch will, at leaſt for ſome months, reap the fruits of our folly *.

I am ever, &c.

Mr. Ayerſt may depend on my conſtant ſolicitation.

A Monſieur le Duc de St. Pierre.

De Whitehall, ce 22me Juin, 1713.

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir votre lettre, Monſieur, du 27me de ce mois, N.S. par les mains du Comte de Lecheraine, auſſi-bien que celle du mois de Janvier, avec les pièces qui étoient jointes. Je vous avoue, que je n'ai jamais vu de droit mieux établi que le vôtre, ni de traitement plus dûr que celui que vous eſſuyez. Voilà mon ſentiment, mais j'oſe ajouter, ce qui eſt de toute autre importance, c'eſt le ſentiment de la Reine. J'ai écrit à Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne, à pluſieurs repriſes, dans ce ſtyle, & je ne conçois pas qu'il ſoit poſſible de dreſſer des ordres plus poſitifs, & plus précis, que ceux qu'ils ont eu ſur votre ſujet.

Je crois avoir marqué à Monſieur de Torcy, & je vous le répète, Monſieur, que vous n'avez qu'à mettre par écrit l'inſtruction, que vous ſouhaitez qu'on envoye à nos Miniſtres, & je puis répondre que la Reine donnera ſes ordres conformement.

En attendant, ſa Majeſté m'a commandé d'écrire, par le courier qui partira demain, ſur le plan de votre dernière lettre.

Je me pique, Monſieur, d'être un homme franc, mes ennemis vous diront peutêtre que je le ſuis trop, ce qu'il y a de ſûr, c'eſt que je ne

* By retaining thoſe privileges in their commerce with France, which had been granted to them, and not to Great Britain.

tromperai

tromperai perſonne, & que ſi je le voudrois faire, ce ne ſeroit pas par Monſieur le Duc de St. Pierre, par le beau-frère de Monſieur de Torcy, que je débuterois. En un mot, comptez, Monſieur, qu'il n'y a rien qui dépend de moi que je ne fait, & que je ne ſoit prêt à faire, pour votre ſervice. Je voudrois de tout mon cœur pouvoir & donner, & exécuter les inſtructions, mais dans la ſituation où je me trouve, je ne puis faire que la première de ces deux choſes.

Les conférences entre les Miniſtres Impériaux & ceux de France à Utrecht ſont rompues, Dieu ſait en quel endroit elles ſe renoueront! mais par tout où les Miniſtres de la Reine ſe trouveront, vous aurez des agens zélés, & des ſerviteurs fidelles.

Je ſuis, Monſieur, &c.

To Mr. Pulteney.

SIR,

Whitehall, June 24th, 1713.

I WOULD not omit writing a few words to you by this poſt, in anſwer to your private letter, though I cannot, till the next, take notice of your other diſpatches, or ſpeak to you of public buſineſs.

I did indeed do you that juſtice, which I find has been reported to you. There is nothing ſo much at my heart, as the good of the ſervice, and wherever I meet with zeal to carry that on, independantly of our party diſputes here at home, my applauſe ſhall follow that character. We are taking meaſures at the cloſe of this Seſſion, to enable the Queen to pay that heavy debt which loads her civil liſt, and ſtarves her ſervants. I hope we ſhall ſucceed, for your ſake, for my own, for every one's, but above all, for the Queen's honour and eaſe.

I doubt Mr. Roſencrantz flatters his own court, but I ſhall write to him, by the Queen's order, to-morrow, in a ſtyle to undeceive them. On Friday, I will ſend you the copy of my letter.

I am, &c.

A Madame la Princeſſe des Urſins.

MADAME,

De Whitehall, ce 25me, Juin, 1713, V.S.

JE ne ſaurai m'empêcher de me joindre à Monſieur le Duc d'Oſſuna, & à Monſieur le Marquis de Montéleon, en récommandant le Comte de Lecheraine à la protection de votre Alteſſe. Après avoir reçu, dans la perſonne de mon parent, des marques ſi éclatantes de votre généroſité, je devrois ſonger de ce qu'en ſi peu de tems, j'y ai recours pour la ſeconde fois. Mais en vérité, Madame, j'aurois encore plus de honte, ſi je refuſois de rendre témoignage du mérite diſtingué de celui, qui aura l'honneur de vous rendre cette lettre.

Il y a pluſieurs années que je connois Monſieur le Comte de Lecheraine. Il a ſervi dans nos armées pendant toute la guerre, il eſt un des plus anciens Généraux Majors*, & je puis aſſurer votre Alteſſe, que lorſqu'il s'agiſſoit des plus grands deſſeins, que nous avons exécutés ou en Allemagne ou ailleurs, il a toujours été dans le ſecret, & s'eſt toujours dignement acquitté du rôle qui lui a été confie. En faiſant l'éloge de mon ami, Madame, je ne conte que des ſimples faits, ſans la moindre exaggération; je le finirai en aſſurant votre Alteſſe, que s'il a le bonheur, ſous ſes favorables auſpices, d'entrer au ſervice de ſa Majeſté Catholique il répondra au caractère que je lui donne, d'un bon homme de guerre & de cabinet.

* In the former Auxiliaries.

Les

Les avis, que votre Alteſſe reçoit en droiture d'Utrecht, l'informent ſi préciſément, de tout ce que s'y paſſe, qu'il ſeroit ſuperflu de l'entretenir ſur ce ſujet: Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Reine, ont été inſtruits de la manière que le Marquis de Montéleon l'a ſouhaité, & je me flatte que ce Miniſtre ſe trouve bien ſecondé par leurs offices, puiſqu'il paroît en être content.

J'ai l'honneur d'être avec un attachement très reſpectueux,

Madame, &c.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

My Lord,

Paris, June 23d, 1713, N.S.

UPON the contents of your Lordſhip's letter of the 29th May, O.S. I have diſcourſed with the Miniſters here.

As to the affair of the galley-ſlaves, Monſieur de Torcy does ſtill adhere to what I underſtand from your Lordſhip, to have been promiſed by this King; that all thoſe who were confined purely upon the account of religion, ſhould be ſet at liberty; this he alledges, is actually performed, and refers you to the Duke d'Aumont to confirm the ſame account; ſo that as to thoſe, who may be ſtill remaining, your Lordſhip will have the beſt information in England, and upon a liſt of their names, and their caſes, as you will repreſent the thing to the Duke d'Aumont, I ſhall be ready to facilitate their releaſe by my beſt offices employed here.

Concerning the letters which this Court ſends to the French governors of the forts in Hudſon's Bay, which your Lordſhip deſires may be tranſmitted to you, in order to their being ſent thither more immediately, by the two ſhips which we diſpatch thither, Mr. Prior has ſpoke to Monſieur Pontchartrain, who promiſes that your Lord-

ſhip ſhall have ſuch letters; but as you ſay, that Mr. Nicholſon will have her Majeſty's orders to give the French ſubjects the liberty of ſelling their immoveable eſtates: Monſieur Pontchartrain deſires that authentic copies of ſuch orders may be either ſent hither, or delivered to the Duke d'Aumont; their Hudſon's Bay Company have ſome moveable effects upon the place, for which they are now ſending, and they hope they ſhall find no oppoſition there, on our part, in their ſo doing.

I don't doubt but that your Lordſhip has ſeen the memorial, preſented to the King of Spain by the French Aſſiento Company, which I tranſmitted ſome time ſince to my Lord Dartmouth's office; I can ſay no more upon that ſubject, than that Lord Lexington has ſince writ to Mr. Prior and myſelf, that Mr. Gilligan is better in health, and may be ſoon expected here; let me remind you, that I hope he will find ſuch inſtructions from your ſide, as may enable him to terminate what remains unfiniſhed of that affair, with the perſons concerned here.

I have preſented a memorial in favour of the Duke of Schomberg's pretenſions to his eſtate in France; if there are any papers that he deſires to be particularly given in to this Court, it were well they were tranſmitted to ſome perſon here, whom he would employ to ſolicit that affair, he is always ſure of my beſt offices.

I have ſpoke to Mr. Cronſtrom, and led him into the explication of her Majeſty's intention in relation to the North: he takes it for granted, that the King of Sweden would be inclined to treat, and that Comte Vellingh has, or would have powers unlimited, and ſufficient to begin a negociation; that he would write to the King, and would engage that Comte Vellingh, ſhould likewiſe do ſo to the ſame purpoſe; that in the mean time, as nothing can ſtop the immediate ruin of Sweden but a ceſſation, he hopes the Queen will be pleaſed to ſpeak her intentions thereupon, very firmly to the Allies: he ſeems very much of

opinion, that her Majeſty's good offices herein can only prove effectual by her ſending a ſquadron into the Baltic; I have diſcourſed with Monſieur de Torcy upon the ſame ſubject; he ſeems likewiſe to apprehend the immediate danger that threatens Sweden; but I cannot find by any thing he ſaid, that this Court is diſpoſed to enter ſolely into meaſures to prevent it; I did not think fit to enquire particularly, how far his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty would engage jointly with the Queen, thinking it would look too like making an offer, in which I am not impowered; my own private opinion perſuades, that it is not her Majeſty's deſign to engage far in this affair, otherwiſe than in conjunction with Holland; the intervention of theſe three great powers, may indeed prove effectual in this behalf, without the apprehenſion of a new war, into which, I preſume, her Majeſty will be very cautious how ſhe enters, having ſo lately got out of an old one. I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Paris, June 23d, 1713, N.S.

I THOUGHT it ſo long ſince I had the ſatisfaction of hearing from you, that my pen was in my hand, to complain of your ſilence, that very moment I received your Lordſhip's letter of the 29th May, in your own hand.

I am ſorry the Scotch have had new cauſe of complaint, and that they ſo univerſally reſent it; I find many at this court would not be ſorry the union were diſſolved. The Houſe of Hanover muſt certainly diſapprove what the Whigs have done upon this occaſion, and I think ſome advantageous uſe might be drawn from it, if Lord Treaſurer has any body at that court, able to repreſent with ſpirit, the behaviour

haviour of each party in relation to this affair, ſo important to their ſucceſſion.

It is ſuppoſed the trenches are opened before Landau, and that that place muſt be taken; however, this court is ſo very weary of the charge of a war, that they are truly ſorry the Emperor gave them no opportunity, before his Miniſter left Utrecht, to agree thoſe trifling difficulties which remain between them, and repent they did not oblige the Elector of Bavaria to accept thoſe propoſitions Mr. Kirkner * laſt made, by the means of Lord Strafford; but now it is become a point of honour, and the chief of this campaign's expence being furniſhed, they will ſee the end of it, preſuming it will be advantageous to them.

Monſieur d'Alegre is deſigned to ſucceed the Duke d'Aumont; you know his character, ſo I ſhall only add, that his daughter having lately married Monſieur Deſmarais' ſon, you may conclude he is well with that Miniſter, and he is likewiſe ſo with Monſieur de Torcy; he is now in the army, and cannot remove while that is in the field; ſome think, that, being an ancient Lieutenant-general, and ſo well eſteemed, that he ſtands among the faireſt to be Mareſchal of France, when a promotion ſhall be made; he will be unwilling to quit the army as long as the war laſts. In the mean time, Abbé Gaultier talks of returning ſoon to England.

I muſt remind your Lordſhip, that ſome months ſince I ſent you a copy of the two Azzurinis† depoſitions, that you might ſee the difference of what the ſon ſaid here and in Holland, and receive your directions, if you had any to give, on that ſubject.

I do not hear who is to be my ſucceſſor; if you intend that Mr. Prior ſhould remain, it is abſolutely neceſſary for her Majeſty's honour,

* One of the Auſtrian Plenipotentiaries.

† Two itinerant ſpies who offered their ſervices to any power, when there was a proſpect of employment.

that

that he ſhould have both money, and notice to put himſelf in that equipage that the Miniſter of every Prince is in. For my part, I am in haſte to be in England; but it will be impoſſible I can be there ſo ſoon as your Lordſhip mentions.

I am, my Lord, &c.

SHREWSBURY.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

July 4th, 1713.

I HAD not delayed till now doing myſelf the honour to acknowledge your Grace's letter of the 23d of June, N.S. had I not been ſo much out of order, in the midſt of a great hurry of domeſtic buſineſs, that I had not time or ſtrength enough to go through the moſt neceſſary parts of what my office required.

Upon what your Grace writ, her Majeſty gave immediately all the proper orders, with which the Court of France will, to be ſure, be ſatisfied, when they ſhall have communication thereof from your Grace, to whom my Lord Dartmouth told me, he would be ſure to tranſmit the detail of the whole. His Lordſhip's doing this, much better than I could, will ſave your Grace the trouble of a long letter from me.

Mr. Gilligan will be able to anſwer all that the French Guinea Company can have to object or demand, and I ſuppoſe may probably be, about this time, arrived at Paris.

You judge, my Lord, extremely right, that the Queen is not willing to go far in the affairs of the North, unleſs in conjunction with the States-General; and, moſt unfortunately for the common intereſt,

and for the Proteſtant cauſe, they ſeem inclined to go no lengths at all: the Queen has uſed all motives to rouſe them up to a good reſolution, but hitherto all in vain.

I really think that nothing would ſooner determine them to join with her Majeſty, in meaſures to prevent the ruin of Sweden, than the appearance that France was going to intereſt herſelf in the Northern quarrel, as guaranty of the treaty of Weſtphalia.

Since the writing of this letter, I find, by advices from Spain, as well as from the Marquis de Montéleon, that a falſe alarm, which the Princeſs Urſini has taken, the detail of which would be too tedious to trouble your Grace withal, has delayed your diſpatch in the treaty of commerce, which Mr. Gilligan hoped for: I believe, however, thoſe miſtakes may, by this time, be rectified, and he on his way to Paris.

The courier who delivers your Grace theſe letters, goes on to Madrid.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, July 4th, 1713.

I AM to return my humble thanks to your Grace for the honour of your private letters of the 23rd of June, and ſhould have done this ſooner, had I not been theſe ten or twelve days more out of order, than I think I ever was in my life: I cannot conceal from your Grace, that vexation of mind has contributed a great deal to make me ſo. I will not trouble you, my Lord, with any account of the ſituation of our domeſtic affairs, I was perhaps too particular on that ſubject in my

laſt; and beſides, your Grace will be ſoon here on the ſpot, to obſerve and to judge for yourſelf; I will only ſay thus much, that I wiſh heartily you was here, becauſe it will very ſoon be time for thoſe, who muſt in honour and good ſenſe unite in the ſame meaſure, to come to ſome peremptory reſolution; and that reſolution cannot, ought not to be taken, till your Grace is amongſt us. It is no fault of mine if you, my Lord, have not received Aſſurini's papers, and if Mr. Prior is not at a certainty concerning his deſtination. I have ſolicited both often, and I will repeat my ſolicitations, as ſoon as the Treaſurer, who is now confined by illneſs, comes again abroad.

I am, my Lord, &c.

From Mr. Prior.

My Lord,

Paris, June, 23rd, 1713.

I HAVE the favour of your letter of the 31ſt May; I hope you know that to me, of all men living, you need make no excuſe for not anſwering regularly; whenever I hear from you I find a good and inſtructive correſpondent, and when I do not hear from you, I comfort myſelf in having a real and eternal friend. I pity you heartily in the labour of the battle you ſuſtain; but when I eaſily remember that nobody can do it but yourſelf, I find my concern upon that head diminiſh extremely. The Duke of Shrewſbury anſwers you upon every head of buſineſs; I have reminded Lord Treaſurer of that of Turin; but your faces are all turned ſo towards the North, that you have not time to think of any other point of the compaſs.

I delivered your letter to Monſieur de Torcy, he will thank you for it himſelf, Madame de Torcy, ſays ſhe is very much your ſervant; and how much

much Madame de Feriole is really ſo, ſhe tells you in the incloſed. That family dined with me on Sunday, little Brother Sim aſſiſting at the celebration of the feſtival.

I find the Duke of Shrewſbury reſolved to come to you, as ſoon as his viſits are diſpatched, ſo that I believe you will judge it time to think of a ſucceſſor for him; but as you very well obſerve, nothing is done in your country with too great precipitancy: the Duke of Shrewſbury has writ more than once upon that ſubject.

It is now known that Monſieur d'Aligre is named for England; Châteauneuf *(Homme de Robe)* for Holland; Count Brancas for Spain; and the Marquis de Laſſe's ſon (you know his father) for Pruſſia (Berlin); for the reſt, things go *morè ſolito*. The old Monarch, at ſeventy-five, eats and ſleeps at Verſailles, as if he were at your age; and ſeems leſs concerned about the Empire continuing a war, than you can be about the Scots threatening to break the union; and the Elector of Bavaria is at Surenne's, playing at lanſquena, and giving balls, with as much ſatisfaction as if the treaty of Ilmerſheim were made good, and he in poſſeſſion of his own palace at Munich.

Adieu, my Lord, &c.

M. PRIOR.

To Mr. Prior.

Whitehall, July 4th, 1713.

YOU are very juſt to an honeſt heart; when you depend upon my friendſhip, it ſhall never fail you: God knows whether it will at any time be uſeful to you.

Believe me, dear Matt, I have not been unmindful of you, nor cool in my ſolicitations to have your ſtation appointed; my Lord Treaſurer

is

is at preſent confined by illneſs, as ſoon as he returns to Court, I attack him afreſh.

I am unfortunate in all my negociations, at leaſt in all thoſe at home.

At the laſt election at Weſtminſter, I endeavoured to have ſent a very pretty lad, who wears your name, and therefore was entitled to my beſt ſervices, to Chriſt Church; but Bentley *pro ſolitâ humanitate ſuâ*, leaped over eight boys, to make this youth his firſt option, and remained, with all the good breeding of a pedant, inflexible.

I make no doubt but you are ſurprized at the wiſdom of our Senate, in ſuſpending the paſſing of the bill, to make effectual the eighth and ninth articles of the treaty of commerce. Lord Angleſey and Sir T. Hanmer are at the head of this worthy project.

The treaties met with the coldeſt reception, when they were laid before the Houſes; and thoſe who were frightened out of their ſenſes leſt they ſhould not be made, affected to appear very indifferent to them, when they were made.

Judge whether the Whigs were blind to this advantage, or ſlow to diſperſe lies, to raiſe prejudices, to work up a momentary ferment; their lies, theſe prejudices, this ferment, were urged as reaſons for doing nothing this Seſſion, in the buſineſs of commerce.

Adieu, *quos perdere vult Jupiter prius dementat*. God keep you and I in our wits. Love me as I love you.

A Madame la Princeſſe des Urſins.

De Whitehall, ce 5me Juillet, 1713.

J'AI vu, Madame, par les lettres de Monſieur de Lexington, auſſi-bien que par celles de Monſieur de Montéleon, dans quelles inquiétudes votre Alteſſe s'eſt trouvée, lorſqu'elle a obſervée que le projet qui a été envoyé

envoyé d'ici en dernier lieu, & ſur le fondement duquel nous eſpérons que Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires au Congrès auront préſentement perfectionné le traité de paix, ne contenoit pas l'article qui regarde la ſouveraineté indépendante, c'eſt pourquoi je n'ai point voulu différer un moment à dépêcher ce courier, pour informer votre Alteſſe des raiſons ſur leſquelles nous avons, Monſieur de Montéleon et moi, réglé notre conduite. Je me flatte par avance qu'elle en ſera contente, et qu'elle trouvera que ſes intérêts ne pouvoient être, par rapport à la Reine, dans une meilleure ſituation. Le projet ne contient que ces articles du traité de paix, qui dépendent uniquement des deux cours, dans la négociation deſquels nulle autre puiſſance a droit d'entrer, et dont nous étions alors en état de régler définitivement les termes.

Il y a d'autres articles, comme celui qui regarde la ſouveraineté de votre Alteſſe, celui qui regarde le fief de Sienne, et celui, que ſa Majeſté Catholique tant ſouhaite, pour empêcher aucun démembrement ultérieur de la Monarchie d'Eſpagne, ſur leſquels il n'y a pas le moindre diſpute entres les Miniſtres de la Reine, et ceux du Roi, et qu'il n'étoit pourtant pas poſſible de ſavoir préciſément en quels termes il faudroit les inſérer dans le traité, lorſque nous avons ſigné le projet. Voilà Madame, la ſeule raiſon, ſur quoi votre Alteſſe n'a point trouvé la ſtipulation, à laquelle elle s'étoit attendue. L'eſſentiel étoit fixé, il ne s'agiſſoit que des formes. Comme je ſuis entré fort au long dans ce détail avec Monſieur de Lexington, je ne veux point abuſer de la patience de votre Alteſſe, ce Miniſtre aura l'honneur de lui expliquer notre penſée, et de l'aſſurer qu'elle n'a rien à craindre.

La bonne foi de la Reine a éclaté dans tout le cours de la négociation, & ſa Majeſté ne ſe rafroidira certainement pas, dans une affaire, qu'elle a pris à cœur, et ſur laquelle votre Alteſſe ne peut pas ignorer la vivacité & la fermeté avec leſquelles ſes Miniſtres ont par tout inſiſté: ſi dans le traité de France et d'Hollande on s'eſt contenté du terme de Principauté

ſans

ſans ſpécifier la ſouveraineté & l'indépendance, ce qui donne lieu au Miniſtres des Etats de chicaner avec ceux d'Eſpagne; on a mal fait, mais il eſt facile d'y remédier; & j'oſe répondre à votre Alteſſe, comme my Lord de Strafford a fait au Marquis de Montéleon, qui étoit alarmé d'une conférence qu'il venoit d'avoir avec Monſieur Vanderduſſen, que les Plénipotentiaires d'Eſpagne n'ont qu'à ſe tenir fermes & bien unis avec ceux de la Grande Bretagne, pour faire paſſer cet article, de la manière qu'il a été concerté & dreſſé entr'eux.

Je ne puis point me réſoudre à finir cette lettre, qui devient être ennuyeuſe par ſa longueur, avant que j'ai eu l'honneur de dire à votre Alteſſe, que la Reine eſpère que le traité de commerce a reçu la dernière main, puiſque ſa Majeſté ne pourra plus long-tems laiſſer à Madrid le Sieur Gilligan, qu'elle ſe trouve obligée d'employer ailleurs.

La Reine a fait tout ſon poſſible pour aplanir les difficultés qui s'étoient formées, & pour faciliter les négociations des Miniſtres d'Eſpagne, tant ici qu'à Utrecht; elle ſe flatte qu'en révanche le Roi Catholique voudra bien donner les ordres néceſſaires pour finir un traité qui regarde les intérêts des deux nations, & qui a été depuis pluſieurs mois en délibération.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

My Lord,

Whitehall, July 11th, 1713.

I HAD lately a very proper opportunity to ſpeak to the Queen about your Excellency, and about the embaſſy of France; by what her Majeſty was pleaſed to anſwer, I found her inclined, as ſoon as her ſervice will admit of your leaving Holland, to call you home. I could not perceive that ſhe had determined who to ſend to the Court

of

of France, but ſhe ſeemed not to entertain any thoughts of employing your Lordſhip there.

For my own part, beſides the particular ſatisfaction, which I ſhall have in living with your Lordſhip here, I muſt own that I ſhall be glad to ſee your ſpirit and vigour exerted in the ſupport of the Queen's adminiſtration, which, in my opinion, wants nothing elſe totally to ſubdue all oppoſition. Adieu, my dear Lord; do me the juſtice to be perſuaded that no man loves you better than

Your, &c.

A Monſieur le Marquis de Montéleon.

De Whitehall, ce 12me Juillet, 1713.

JE ne me ſuis pas fort preſſé, je vous l'avoue, Monſieur, de répondre à la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 2me de ce mois, N.S. & que j'ai reçu des mains de Monſieur Tanqueux, parce que je ſavois que, dans peu de jours, tout ce que la Reine pouvoit faire de plus favorables pour la Princeſſe des Urſins ſeroit fait, & parce que je ſavois auſſi qu'il étoit impoſſible de rien ajouter aux ordres précis, dont Meſſieurs les Ambaſſadeurs de la Reine étoient déjà munis.

Vous avez parlez, Monſieur, à Vander Duſſen, & aux autres Députés de l'état, dans le ſtyle qu'il faut ſoutenir; continuez à faire de même, ces gens fileront doux, & la réuſſite de cette affaire ſera agréable à nous ſouhaits.

Je ne dois pas vous déguiſer que j'ai trouvé la Reine un peu choquée de ce que la Princeſſe des Urſins a pris ſi vîte l'alarme, & de ce que des ſoupçons ſi mal fondés, ont arrêté le cours des négociations de Madrid, & accroché un traité qui devoit avoir été conclu, il y a long-tems: ſa Majeſté crût qu'après toutes les déclarations qu'elle avoit faites, & toutes les meſures qu'elle avoit priſes pour cette Princeſſe,

cette bonne foi, à laquelle ſa Majeſté n'a jamais manqué, ne ſeroit point révoquée en doute.

Je félicite votre Excellence, de tout mon cœur, de l'accompliſſement de notre grand ouvrage ; travaillons à rendre cette union, qui vient de s'établir, eternelle, en éloignant toutes ces jalouſies, qui ſeules peuvent y donner la moindre atteinte. Il n'eſt pas néceſſaire que je m'explique d'avantage, votre Excellence m'entend de reſte.

Les Miniſtres de la Reine ne manqueront pas de conférer avec vous, ſelon les ordres que je leurs envoye par ce courier ; votre Excellence verra, par les repréſentations de ces Meſſieurs, de quelle manière ſa Majeſté enviſage la négociation entre l'Eſpagne & le Portugal. Je ne veux point entrer dans ce détail ; je me bornerai à la ſupplier de bien faire ſentir à la Cour de Madrid, que la Reine ne peut pas ſe diſpenſer de ſoutenir les Portuguais, après les avoir obligés de ſe départir de certaines demandes, très dures pour le Roi Catholique, mais telles que ſa Majeſté auroit été contrainte d'inſiſter deſſus, ſi la Cour de Liſbonne n'avoit donnée la facilité ſuſdite.

Je ne puis rien ajouter aux raiſons que je vous ai donné, Monſieur, à pluſieurs repriſes, pour montrer l'utilité qu'il y auroit pour les deux nations, en vous envoyant auprès de la Reine. Je compte qu'on vous deſtine pour l'ambaſſade de France, vous ſavez les réflexions que je fais là-deſſus. Je doute fort que beaucoup d'autres feront les mêmes.

Je ſuis, &c.

A Monſieur le Duc d'Oſſune.*

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 12me Juillet, 1713.

VOTRE Excellence veut bien que je profite du départ de ce courier, pour la féliciter ſur l'heureux accompliſſement du grand ouvrage de la paix. Vos ſoins, Monſieur, ont beaucoup contribué à la faire, &

* Chief Plenipotentiary on the part of Spain, at the Hague.

je ne doute point que vous ne portiez la même attention à l'affermiſſement de l'union des deux nations.

Votre Excellence verra, par l'article que les Miniſtres de la Reine viennent de ſigner, & que je renverrai dans peu de jours, ratifié à Utrecht, infiniment mieux quelles ſont les intentions de ſa Majeſté à l'égard de la Princeſſe des Urſins, que par tout ce que je pourrois lui dire là-deſſus. Nous nous flattons que cette Princeſſe ſera préſentement convaincu, que ſes intérêts étoient en bonnes mains, quand elles étoient entre celles de la Reine.

Je ſuis, &c.

A Monſieur le Duc d'Atri.

De Whitehall, ce 12me Juillet, 1713.

JE vous felicite, Monſieur, à mon tour, du rétabliſſement de la paix, entre deux nations, qui ne peuvent jamais être ennemis, ſans ſe départir de leurs véritables intérêts. Vous êtes témoin, Monſieur, juſques à quel point nous ſommes imbus de cette maxime. Je ne doute point qu'on ne ſoit perſuadé de la même vérité en Eſpagne, & que rien ne puiſſe à l'avenir altérer cette bonne intelligence, & cette étroite amitié, qui viennent d'être établies.

Je ſuis, &c.

A Monſieur le Marquis de Montéleon.

De Whitehall, ce 14me Juillet, 1713.

QUOIQUE j'ai répondu à vos dernières letters, par le courier qui partit d'ici Dimanche paſſé, vous voulez bien, Monſieur, que je me ſerve de l'occaſion qui ſe préſente, par le retour du Sieur Tanqueux, pour vous faire de nouveau mes complimens.

J'entends de tous côtés, que la Cour d'Eſpagne vous deſtine à l'Ambaſſade de France: le Duc d'Aumont me l'a même confirmé. En cas

que

que cette deſtination vous ſoit agréable, je prends tout le part que l'amitié très ſincère, que je conſerverai toujours pour votre perſonne, exige de moi. Vous ſavez, Monſieur, ſur ce chapitre, la penſée que j'ai eu. Les intérêts réciproques de l'Eſpagne & de la Grande Bretagne, & l'affemiſſement de l'union que nous venons de rétablir, me ſemblent demander un plus grand ſoin qu'à l'ordinaire, dans le choix du miniſtre qui ſera ici de la part du Roi Catholique, au moins pendant les deux premières années de la paix. Une conduite très délicate, & une confiance très parfaite, ſont requiſes pour déraciner entièrement des préjugés qui ont été fortifiés pendant la guerre, pour prévenir des jalouſies qui pourront naître pendant la paix, pour jeter les fondemens d'une augmentation de puiſſance à la Monarchie Eſpagnole, dans laquelle cette nation trouveroit auſſi ſes convenances, & pour nous cimenter d'une telle manière enſemble, que ni les accidens que peuvent arriver tant ici qu'en Eſpagne, ni les changemens que le tems peut apporter au ſyſtême général des affaires de l'Europe, ſoient capables, à l'avenir, de ſéparer nos intérêts, & de nous rendre ennemis. Voilà des vues qu'on pourroit avoir en vous employant auprès de la Reine, mais il faut que ſa Majeſté Catholique prévoie des conjonctures, qui peuvent ſe former en France d'une plus grande conſéquence pour ſes royaumes & pour ſa famille; votre Excellence a ſouhaité que je lui écriviſſe ſans réſerve; j'ai promis de le faire, & elle voit je lui tiens parole.

Le Comte de Strafford me mande, que dans l'article de votre traité avec la Hollande, qui porte que les Etats-Généraux ſeront ſur le pied *'amiciſſima gens*, il y a une exception, pour le vaiſſeau accordé aux ujet de la Reine par l'affiente. Je ne ſais s'il n'auroit mieux valu, puiſqu'une exception a été trouvée néceſſaire, de la coucher dans termes plus étendus, par rapport à ce contrat en général.

Dites-moi, s'il vous plaît, en confidence, comment le Duc d'Oſſune

a été ſatisfait de la réponſe que je fis à la lettre qu'il m'écrivit il y a quelque tems, ſur le ſujet de l'article qu'il avoit projeté de faire inſérer dans le traité de Savoye. Je vous avoue que je me ſuis trouvé un peu embarraſſé dans cette occaſion.

Meſſieurs les Miniſtres d'Hollande ſont à la vérité très peu galans, de former tant de difficultés dans une affaire qui ne regarde que les intérêts d'une Dame. J'eſpère qu'ils reviendront de cette opiniâtreté, & montreront, à notre exemple, plus de politeſſe.

Je ſuis, &c.

Au nom de Dieu, finiſſez avec les Portugais.

From Mr. Prior.

Paris, July 13-24th, 1713.

WHILST I acknowledge your letter of the 4th, my Lord, I may tell you, that I find an equal concern for the public, and an equal ſympathy of friendſhip, as you had when you writ; but after all, *que faire?* is the end of my philoſophy. If we will debar ourſelves the traffic of a nation, that deſires us to take goods, which we confeſs we cannot be without; if we will take thoſe very goods from another nation, who has nothing of its own growth; if we will ſet the French upon a neceſſity of making cloth, till at laſt it grows indifferent to them if they take our cloth or no, and then complain that it lies upon our hands; if we will keep tobacco bonded now eighteen months by act of Parliament, and then not know how to diſtribute it, till we have the whole product of paſt years by us, damaged and ſpoiled, and above half the number of the importers are broke and gone off; if we will, ten years together, ſigh theſe things as the grievances of a war, and ſay we do not underſtand them, when they are propoſed to be remedied; if one confeſſes the falſehood of an argument, yet act as if one was convinced

convinced by it, and poſtpone the conſideration of the trade of England, till one has aſſumed his ſeat in the next parliament; if—yet is all this, my Lord, your fault or mine? I ſhould vex you anew, if I repreſented the great indifference with which France receives our proceedings, except only the people upon the Garonne, who are evident loſers by what they had already embarked and deſtined for England; on the other ſide, I believe, before next Seſſion, you will have clamours enough from ſome of our people.

In the courſe of buſineſs, I find theſe people grow colder to us. Welden, the Eaſt India Governor, aſked them (by a memorial which the Duke of Shrewſbury and I gave in) for about the value of 2000l. ſterling, which he pretended were jewels, &c. belonging to his wife and daughter; inſtead of an anſwer, they have returned a great collection of letters, which ſerve to contradict his aſſertions, and invalidate his claim.

In Shepheard's buſineſs, which I hoped to make up, it not being indeed one of the beſt cauſes in the world, I thought I had agreed with Monſieur de Torcy, that Valincourt ſhould oblige the perſons intereſted, to compound, *pour tout potage*, for 20,000 livres. Valincourt ſends me, ten days after, a letter and propoſal from the people concerned, to do the whole for 25,000 livres.—Pitiful! my Lord, is it not?

I am likewiſe afraid for another cauſe: Engliſh effects taken upon Hamburgh and Bremiſh bottoms, though Ponchartrain's letters to me upon the ſubject, are full of civilities; a good deal of this proceeding, I take to have ariſen from what the wiſdom of our nation is doing.

I am obliged to you very particularly, for your care of my friend Prior; I cannot imagine how you came to know that ſnudging boy, for his mother is very homely. Bentley will always be an ill-bred pedant; can the leopard change his ſkin? I hope you may never have any thing more eſſential to trouble you, than the diſappointment of the

boy's going to Trinity *. I think I ſhall always have intereſt enough in Cambridge, to make his ſtay there eaſy; and if he has the continuance of your patronage, I think too, matters cannot go ſo ill, but that in four years we may ſet him afloat in the world.

Mr. Frowd, Comptroller of the Poſt-office, is arrived here, in order to ſettle an agreement with Monſieur Pajot, for the opening our literal correſpondence; ſo that at once we tell them we will have no commerce with them, and deſire them to forward our commerce with other nations, by their means, comical!

The Poſt-maſters have ſent me a full power to act for them, and a letter of direction for my ſo doing, without one word from either Lord Treaſurer or Secretary of State, comical again!

I write to you concerning my own affairs, as if they were your's; my Lord Shrewſbury is coming to you (a good deal out of humour, however his good-breeding ſtrives to conceal it); by nobody being named, I preſume I am to ſtay here ſome time longer; of this Lord Shrewſbury has writ, you have ſpoke, and the Grand Monarch has aſked. Am I to go to pay the compliment at Turin? am I to ſtay here? am I to come home? If I am to ſtay, though but two months after the ambaſſador, muſt not I have a houſe, a parſon, and a long &c. If I am to go to Turin, is it not convenient I ſhould be ſoon back again, in caſe I am to ſtay? Adieu, my Lord, I vex you by theſe queſtions; and as to myſelf, I grow as great a philoſopher, as a good deal of indifference can make me. Pray put my Lord Treaſurer in mind of Dick Shelton; and believe me truly ſenſible of the very great friendſhip with which you honour me, and which I can no more expreſs than I can deſerve.

I am, &c.

MAT.

* College, Cambridge.

To Mr. Prior.

Whitehall, July 25th, 1713.

I SHOULD be as much a philoſopher as you appear, friend Matthew, in your laſt letter, on the ſubject of the bill of commerce, or on account of any other of thoſe numerous diſgraces and mortifications, which of late we have been expoſed to, were they the conſequences of an inſolent enemy's ſuperior force, or did they proceed from the deſertion of our friends, who diſliked our cauſe. But neither of theſe is the preſent caſe.

Our enemies are in themſelves contemptible, and our friends are well inclined. The former have no ſtrength but what we might have taken from them, and the latter no diſſatisfaction, but what we might have prevented. Let the game which we have, be wreſted out of our hands; this I can bear; but to play, like children, with it, till it ſlips between our fingers to the ground, and ſharpers have but to ſtoop and take it up; this conſideration diſtracts a man of ſpirit, and not to be vexed in this caſe, is not to be ſenſible.

I do not at all wonder, that the people where you are; grow colder to us. I never expected any thing from their gratitude, and the ready way to fall into contempt abroad, is to fall, as we have done, into contempt at home.

When I ſet pen to paper, I did not deſign to have encroached on Lord Dartmouth, or ſaid one word to you about public buſineſs; but there comes into my thoughts, whilſt I am writing, a matter which is of conſequence, and which I think I ought to mention to you.

The Duc d'Aumont ſtill continues to tell me, every time we meet, that his maſter looks on the convention for the neutrality of Italy, to be no longer obligatory, ſince the Imperialiſts have broke it by raiſing contributions, by taking barks on the coaſt, &c. that the Court of Vienna will

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will never grow tired of the war whilſt it is waged on the Rhine, and at a diſtance from the hereditary countries, or others immediately belonging to the houſe of Auſtria; that therefore the ſureſt and moſt expeditious method of inclining the Emperor to peace, would be to attack Sardinia, and his poſſeſſions in Italy, but that the King will not engage in ſuch an undertaking, unleſs the Queen, tacitly at leaſt, approve of it.

This language was held both to our Miniſters and thoſe of Savoy, by the Plenipotentiaries of France, before they left Utrecht; and as it may probably be renewed to you, I will acquaint you with the anſwer which was given in Holland and here. We ſaid that ſuch a reſolution would be too precipitate; that if the neutrality was not obſerved on one ſide it could not indeed juſtly be reckoned binding on the other, but then that Great Britain and France were to act as guaranties of it; that we were to expect formal and evident proofs of the particular infractions; that complaints and requiſitions were to be made, and a reaſonable time allowed for anſwers, before it could be proper to proceed to the *voies de fait*; that our true intereſt ſeemed at preſent to be, endeavouring by all means poſſible to diſpoſe the minds of the German Miniſters to begin where they left off, and not undertaking any meaſure which might remove the foundation already laid, or break through the plan almoſt finiſhed at Utrecht.

I cannot conclude this letter, without deſiring you to try at a matter which I have very much at heart, and which I would have writ to the Duke of Shrewſbury upon, had I not apprehended that he might take it ill, if I ſhould apply to him upon a ſuppoſition of what he does not own. In a word we imagine he goes to Ireland, in that caſe might not Mr. Hare be ſecretary there? Addiſon went from the office at Whitehall to that poſt. Mr. Hare has ſerved ſo very well, that whatever becomes of me, I ſhould be under the laſt concern if he was not provided for. My Lord Treaſurer's proviſions come too ſlow, and are ſo uncertain, that

I expect

I expect little from him. I have ſolicited for an uncle of my wife's, theſe three years, all I pretended to was an employment of 200 l. a year, which has been vacant above half the time, and I have not ſucceeded. Judge you, whether I am likely to trouble my Lord for any other perſon. If you find that eaſy moment, which ſhould be watched for in our applications to great men, uſe it for Mr. Hare's ſervice.

Adieu, dear Matt, in my friendſhip to you I can never alter.

Servetur ad imum qualis ab incepto proceſſerit, & tibi conſtat; compliments as you ſee good.

Lord Treaſurer is extremely ill; if he was well, I ſhould know nothing of your deſtination.

Once more, yours ever,

BOLINGBROKE.

From the Duke of Shrewsbury.

Paris, July 25th, 1713, N.S.

I SO well comprehend the vexation of mind which your Lordſhip ſo well deſcribes, that I even feel it; it is not poſſible at this diſtance to be enough informed of particulars, to underſtand the cauſe of what has happened of late. Allow me for the preſent only to recommend temper and moderation, and to beg of you to do nothing haſtily that may be deferred, for what is not done at one time, may at another, but what is once done can never be undone. I will make what haſte I can into England, and hope to be with you in leſs than a month. The meſſenger waits *.

I am, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's &c.

SHREWSBURY.

* The reader will have obſerved that ſeveral recent letters have ſhown the diſtracted and divided ſtate of her Majeſty's Miniſters, which was now growing daily worſe.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

My Lord,

Whitehall, July 25th, 1713.

I CANNOT let your Grace leave France, before I have returned you my moſt humble thanks for the honour of your letter of the 25th of this month, N.S. which brings me the moſt certain proof of your favour and friendſhip, ſince I am ſure your Grace would give no advice to thoſe, for whom you had no concern.

It never entered into my thoughts to take any ſtep of the kind you hint at, without your Grace's knowledge and approbation.

I ſhall own my opinion and inclination, and after that ſhall be ready to ſacrifice both to the good pleaſure of your Grace, my Lord Chancellor *, and my Lord Trevor †.

It is, on many accounts, great ſatisfaction to your ſervants here, to know that your Grace will ſoon be amongſt us: no meaſure will be fixed upon till you arrive; and all join in thinking, that it is high time ſome reſolution was taken for retrieving our affairs, or for ſecuring our retreat. I ſpeak in this ſtyle, becauſe you will find no difference in opinion; and the two Lords I name above, will appear, on this occaſion, to have as little phlegm as Peterborough or myſelf.

The Treaſurer is again extremely ill, and I doubt his health is ſo ſhattered by frequent returns of illneſs, as to be little depended upon.

The Queen has no very great uſe of her legs, but, in other reſpects, is perfectly well.

Sick, or well, in or out, I am, and ever will be, my Lord,

Your Grace's, &c.

* Lord Harcourt. † Chief Juſtice of the Common Pleas.

To the Lord Chancellor.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, July 28th, 1713.

THE occaſion of my interrupting your Lordſhip at this time, is a letter which I received from Lord Treaſurer, and ſome diſcourſe which I had with the Queen. I find both very deſirous that there may be no delay in diſſolving this Parliament, and iſſuing writs for the new one. My Lord Treaſurer writes, that he hoped your Lordſhip had aſked the Queen's leave to have writs ready prepared. You will pleaſe to take this hint, and give any directions from the country, which may ſerve to quicken this matter. If, in form, the Queen is to be ſpoke to, upon the firſt notice, I will take care to do it in the manner your Lordſhip ſhall direct.

I am, &c.

It would be of uſe to know preciſely the day when your Lordſhip will be in town.

To Mr. Drummond.

SIR,

Whitehall, July 25th, 1713.

YOUR public and your private diſpatches, your manner of ſerving the Queen, and the ſucceſs of your endeavours, are all equally agreeable. I promiſe myſelf that you do me the juſtice to be perſuaded that this merit loſes, by my repreſentations, none of its luſtre. My Lord Treaſurer is now confined very cloſely by a ſevere fit of the gravel, an inflammation in his eyes, and a falling of the ſame, or ſome other humour, into his knees. This accident retards the wheels of

our adminiſtration in every reſpect. As ſoon as he returns abroad, you may be aſſured, that I ſhall put him in mind of acknowledging your ſervices, in proportion to what they deſerve. My Lord is your friend, and the Queen is ſo juſtly prepared in your favour, that I make no doubt but you will immediately have another payment than what Courts uſually make, hopes and promiſes. No matter who ſigned the proviſional regulation, you made it.

The conduct of the Dutch, in this affair, though they are come up to what we deſired, I own to you, do not give that ſatisfaction which I could wiſh, who ſincerely deſire to ſee them cloſely united to the Queen, and in order to that end, all jealouſies between the two nations (particularly as to the Netherlands) removed. This can only be brought about by their laying aſide that air of ſuperiority, and that ſpirit of over-reaching us, which they have been too long ſuffered to aſſume, and to exert.

Can it be right to loſe all hold of the French commiſſaries? If we ſeparate entirely from them, we ſtand more at the mercy of the Dutch. I think we might manage between them, ſo as to make uſe of both, and be uſed by neither.

I never made any doubt of your being perfectly eaſy with my Lord Privy Seal. Perhaps her Majeſty may think it proper to order his Excellency to take Bruſſels in his way home, whilſt the Earl of Strafford remains in Holland, to finiſh what may be left undone, either at Utrecht or at the Hague. But we muſt firſt ſee thoſe poor creatures, the Portugueſe, out of pain, and feel the pulſe of the Dutch and the Princes of the Empire, how far they will contribute to ſubdue the warlike ſpirit of the Court of Vienna, who talk, I hear, of another campaign, in the midſt of their inability to ſupport this. All this I write for you alone.

My

My brother will be back with you in about a fortnight. Let me beg of you to ſend to the academy at Utrecht, and deſire the maſter to have particular care of two horſes of mine, which were left in his hands by George. I ſhall ſend for them over in a ſhort time.

I ſhall be much obliged to you, if you pleaſe to ſend me ſome account of the meaſures taking in Holland, to make uſe of our wiſe ſtep, in rejecting the bill of commerce.

I am, &c.

To the Duke of Richmond *.*

My Lord,

Whitehall, July 30th, 1713.

IF I have been ſlow in anſwering the letters, which your Grace has honoured me with, the Ducheſs of Richmond will do me, I am ſure, the juſtice to let you know, that I have not been ſo in my endeavours to obey your commands.

Till the bill paſſed for enabling the Queen to pay the civil liſt debts, it was in vain to apply in the Ducheſs of Portſmouth's behalf; and ſince that time, the Treaſurer has been ſo ill, that for many days together, his moſt intimate friends have not had acceſs to him; I will deliver your Grace's letter, and ſet your requeſt in the beſt light I can to him, the moment he comes abroad; as ſoon as that is done, I will not fail to apply to her Majeſty; of theſe proceedings, and of the anſwers I get, the Ducheſs of Richmond, who is now in town upon this affair, ſhall be punctually informed, and perhaps, I may be able, even before the diſpatch of the letter I am now writing, to ſay ſome-

* Then abroad, ſoliciting his claims in right of (or rather the claims of) his mother, Madame Louiſia de Querouaille, Ducheſs of Portſmouth, to eſtates in France.

thing to you. In all caſes, and on all occaſions, I beg your Grace to be perſuaded, that you have not a more devoted, faithful ſervant, than

B.

To Lord Lexington.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Auguſt 1ſt, 1713.

I HAVE the honour of your Lordſhip's letters of the 17th and 23d of July, as well as thoſe which accompanied the articles of commerce. Thoſe of the 23d, were brought me by the courier, whom I diſpatch back, ſome days before thoſe of an older date arrived at Dunkirk.

As to the affair of the Princeſs des Urſins, it muſt at the firſt view, appear impracticable to thoſe, who knew any thing of the preſent ſtate of the Spaniſh Low Countries, or of the tenure by which her Majeſty holds ſuch places as ſhe is in poſſeſſion of there. Dixmuyd we have nothing to do with. In the caſtle of Ghent, in Nieuport, and in Bruges, we have garriſons; but theſe are very ſmall, ſufficient in peaceable times to keep the gates, but far from being ſufficient to give the law, or parcel out any diſtrict of country. Beſides, if her Majeſty was able to do what is deſired of her, ſhe would not think it juſt or agreeable to her honour. The ceſſion of the whole Spaniſh Netherlands, is depoſited in her hands. The towns, wherein her troops are, ſhe has reſerved a power to garriſon, till ſuch time as the Emperor ſhall give her ſatisfaction with reſpect to trade, and no longer.

After this ſhort view of the Queen's ſtrength and engagements, I need not, I think, ſay any more on this head; your Lordſhip will pleaſe to make the King, the Queen, and the Princeſs ſenſible, that the

expedient

expedient propoſed is utterly impracticable, and what they would themſelves have never thought of, had they known, as much as you are now able to inform them of: ſure I am, they can have no reaſonable ſuſpicion, that the Queen is not willing to do every thing proper towards the advancement of an affair, which their Catholic Majeſties take ſo much to heart. The article in favour of Madame des Urſins, as it ſtands in our treaty with Spain, goes farther than they could expect, and is ſuch a mark of the Queen's diſtinction, as ought never to be forgot by thoſe, in favour of whom it was inſerted.

Endeavour to cure the Court of the alarms they have taken on the behaviour of the Dutch, let but their miniſters be firm in the right place, and eaſy in the right place, and the States will, after many long ſpeeches, and much ſullen obſtinacy, prove tractable at laſt. And now, my Lord, give me leave to aſk you, and to deſire that you would aſk the Princeſs des Urſins and the miniſters, how they expect the Queen ſhould continue to treat with candour and complacency towards his Catholic Majeſty, when ſhe meets every day with the contrary of all this from his miniſters? I do appeal to any impartial man, whether any nation gave another ſuch uſage, eſpecially after ſo many and ſo freſh, as well as important obligations, as we have received in three inſtances from the Court of Madrid. I mean, our negociation about commerce, the diſputes with Portugal, and the act of the ceſſion of Sicily to the Duke of Savoy. As to the former, it was a poor ſhort-ſighted policy, to think, by getting the treaty of peace ſigned firſt, that the Queen would be at their mercy with reſpect to that of commerce. Your Lordſhip will pleaſe to take the firſt opportunity of letting the Miniſter feel, that their artifice impoſes on nobody here, and you will pleaſe to expreſs to the King, how much the Queen was ſurprized, when ſhe received, after ſo many delays, ſo many promiſes, and ſuch a length of negociation, an indigeſted memorial inſtead of a treaty; to inſert what they

refuſe as well as what they grant, was abſurd, but to refer from Madrid to Utrecht, from the maſter to the ſervants, is really to call us names, and to uſe us like children and fools. I am at work to reduce this ſcheme of trade to ſomewhat like a treaty, and to prepare inſtructions for the Queen's Miniſters there to perfect it; which I hoped would never have been their taſk. We hope that the Spaniſh Miniſters may, by ſigning ſome things, at leaſt *ſub ſpe rati*, be able to conclude with ours; otherwiſe I proteſt to your Lordſhip, and you may even ſay the ſame to the Court where you are, I think we ſhall be almoſt as far aſunder as we were when we began to treat.

The proceedings of the Spaniards with the Portugueſe, is another article which touches the Queen very nearly; we prevailed on the latter voluntarily and frankly to depart from all thoſe demands of a barrier, which were ſo particularly grievous to the Catholic King, and which, if they had not receded from, her Majeſty was too faſt bound by treaty to have been able to give up; and conſequently to have contributed, as ſhe has ſince done, to deliver Spain from that war, which raged in the country, and to render the King's poſſeſſion of his throne at once quiet and ſecure: In return for this, the Queen inſiſted, before ſhe would ſign her peace with France, or carry on a negociation with Spain, that certain articles ſhould be ſecured by theſe two powers to the Portugueſe. The articles demanded of France were much more conſiderable than thoſe demanded of Spain. France has performed her part, and now the Spaniards refuſe to perform theirs.

We cannot bring ourſelves up to fancy that his Catholic Majeſty will continue inflexible, and the Queen moſt earneſtly hopes he will not; becauſe ſhe is determined, let the event be what it will, not to abandon the King of Portugal, who has thrown himſelf into her arms, nor to let him ſuffer by the dependence which he has had on her word.

I ſend

I ſend your Excellency incloſed the act of guaranty, which will paſs the great ſeal on Thurſday or Friday next, that you may ſee and be able to tell the Court of Spain, what reſolutions their meaſures have obliged the Queen to take. I can aſſure you, my Lord, that her Majeſty will riſk any thing, rather than leave the King of Portugal in the lurch; and of this you may aſſure whom you pleaſe, and pawn my credit for it, as far as that will go.

The treatment which the Duke of Savoy meets with is, if poſſible, ſtill more extraordinary than all this: the Queen demands the kingdom of Sicily for him, and his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty grants it, by virtue of a full power truſted in his hands by his grandſon, without any condition annexed to this grant, but that of not alienating; the treaty comes to be ſettled, and theſe ſeveral conditions are offered on the part of Spain. All of theſe might juſtly have been rejected, but ſome were, in compliance with the King of Spain's deſire, admitted; the reſt his Majeſty's Miniſters gave up, and abſolutely departed from. After all theſe ſteps, out comes an act of ceſſion, dated before the treaty, in which the conditions left out in the treaty are inſerted. We cannot help looking on this proceeding as unfair and weak; and the Queen depends on the Catholic King, that he will render his ceſſion conformable to his promiſe and his word, ſolemnly given in the treaty, ſigned by his Plenipotentiaries; at leaſt, ſhe declares that ſhe looks on the treaty to be the foundation of the Duke of Savoy's right, and the rule of his poſſeſſion, and to be ſo incorporated into her own, that ſhe cannot ratify the latter, until the King of Spain ratifies the former, purely and abſolutely, without any of the clogs foiſted into the act of ceſſion.

I hope this courier will find your Lordſhip ſtill at Madrid, though I reckon you will have taken your character, have made your entry, and be preparing to return. Pray, my Lord, at parting, give the King a little good advice; and, for his ſake, for ours, and for the whole,

endeavour to have ſuch inſtructions and powers ſent to Utrecht, as may oblige and enable the Duke d'Oſſuna and the Marquis de Montéleon, to finiſh the treaty of commerce in ſome tolerable manner with us; to conclude with the Portugueſe, on the foot propoſed by the Queen, and to rectify the miſtake, for ſuch I hope it will only prove, in the ceſſion of Sicily.

The Emperor, and thoſe who are openly or ſecretly againſt the concluſion of the war, and the ſettlement of Europe, on the plan we here concerted, think it their intereſt (and ſuch it certainly is) to keep as many points of negociation as poſſible unadjuſted, and to foment ſome part of the fire of the war, though none are burnt by it but themſelves. Theſe people know, that many accidents may happen, by means whereof, every thing may revert back into confuſion, and the war kindle afreſh, whilſt they keep up diſſatisfaction among thoſe who have treated, and prevent others from treating at all. This is their intereſt, but this can never be thought the intereſt of France or Spain, in the preſent circumſtances of affairs. The French are ſufficiently convinced, that they ought to cloſe with all thoſe who will cloſe with them, and bring back others, as faſt as poſſible, to renew the conferences where they broke off: the firſt they have done, and they hope by the Queen's aſſiſtance, and under her mediation, to do the latter. The ſame maxim your Excellency will inſtil into the minds of the Spaniards: if they are fond of diſputes, and hope to repair the loſſes, their monarchy has ſuſtained, by new ſtruggles, the ordinary courſe of affairs will hereafter produce enough; let them, in the mean while, perfect the great work of peace, before they begin a new plan. Let all Europe acknowledge King Philip, even his rival, and let the ſettlement of the two monarchies be univerſally received. On this foundation, the Catholic King may build what deſigns he pleaſes, but before this is laid, he runs a great riſk if he ventures to diſoblige

thoſe who have owned him, or to make thoſe deſperate who have not.

My letter ſwells to an unmeaſurable length, and perhaps you ought the leſs to excuſe me for this trouble, becauſe my Lord Dartmouth writes, I ſuppoſe, to your Excellency on moſt of the heads which I have touched; but the affair is of conſequence, the Court of Spain muſt take a new pli; I am warm with this thought, and, having taken the pen into my hand, was not maſter of ſtopping the tide of ink. The Marquis de Bedmar has no very good pretence to the Queen's favour; but if he had, her Majeſty would never for him, for the Duke of Arcos, or for any other perſon, ſuffer an ally, whoſe ſole dependance is on her, to be ſqueezed, as the Court of Spain would ſqueeze Portugal, by this demand of the eſtates. I wiſh your Excellency much health, much ſucceſs, and a ſpeedy return home. I am ever, &c.

B.

A Madame la Princeſſe des Urſins.

MADAME,

De Whitehall, ce 2me d'Août, 1713.

J'AI reçu, par le courier que Monſieur de Lexington a dépêché, la lettre de votre Alteſſe du 24me du mois paſſé.

J'oſe l'aſſurer qu'il n'y a perſonne qui ſouhaite, plus ardemment que moi, les occaſions de lui être util. J'ai tâché de faire paroître ce zèle pour le ſervice de votre Alteſſe, lorſqu'il s'agiſſoit du traité de paix, qui vient d'être ſigné entre les deux couronnes; je continuerai à agir ſur les mêmes principes à l'avenir, & votre Alteſſe peut diſpoſer de moi, comme d'un homme qui lui eſt entièrement acquis.

Monſieur Lawleſs aura l'honneur d'écrire, & Monſieur de Lexington celle de repréſenter de bouche, à votre Alteſſe les raiſons qui mettent la

Reine dans l'impuiſſance de donner les mains à l'expédient propoſé * de la part de ſa Majeſté Catholique, pour aplanir les difficultés, qui empêchent que votre Alteſſe ſoit miſe en poſſeſſion de la ſouveraineté, dont le Roi d'Eſpagne lui a donné un acte de ceſſion, & dont la Reine a bien voulu être garante. Des troupes Britanniques ſont à la vérité dans Gand, dans Bruges, & dans Nieuport; mais elles y ſont en très petit nombre. Il y en a ſuffiſamment pour les garniſons ordinaires de ces places en tems de paix, mais il n'y a pas la cinquième partie de ce qu'il faudroit employer pour l'exécution d'un projet, auquel les Etats, & le peuple du pays, ne manqueroient pas de s'oppoſer, ſoutenus par ſa Majeſté Impériale, & par les Hollandois.

Je ne dois pas céler à votre Alteſſe, que cette difficulté n'eſt pas la ſeule qui ſe rencontre; la ceſſion des Pays-Bas Eſpagnols eſt faite en faveur de la maiſon d'Autriche; l'acte de cette ceſſion a été confié à la Reine en forme de dépot; & ſa Majeſté n'a aucun droit de tenir des garniſons, mêmes dans les places ſuſmentionnées, qu'au nom de l'Empereur, & juſqu'à ce que la barrière de la Hollande & le commerce des Dix Provinces ſoient réglés.

Votre Alteſſe eſt trop équitable pour ne pas entrer dans la force de ce raiſonnement, & trop éclairé pour ne pas voir, que les faites, que j'ai l'honneur de lui expoſer, ne ſouffrent pas que la Reine, toute portée qu'elle ſoit à lui faire plaiſir, puiſſe entreprendre une opération de la nature de celle-ci. Pour la confirmer d'autant plus dans ces ſentimens, je ne dois pas lui céler un avis, que je viens de recevoir, & qui eſt que les Hollandois, ayant pris l'alarme ſur quelques paroles lâchés à Utrecht, touchant la ville de Nieuport, ont d'abord retiré le ſeul regiment, Wallon,

* This expedient was for the Queen to put Urſini in poſſeſſion of the places in Spaniſh Flanders, garriſoned by the Britiſh troops.

qui

qui ſe trouvoit à Oſtende, & ont renforcé la garniſon de cette place par des battalions de leurs propres troupes.

Le Duc d'Oſſuna, & le Marquis de Montéleon, appuyent avec toute la vivacité, & toute la ſageſſe néceſſaire, les offices de Monſieur d'Aubigny. Les Plénipotentiaires de la Grande Bretagne ſoutiendront, de la même manière, les engagemens que la Reine a pris à ce ſujet; & je ne doute point que votre Alteſſe ne ſoit, en peu de tems, contente des effets de leur ſoins. Quoique les Hollandois faſſent les fiers, & affectent de garder beaucoup de meſures avec l'Empereur, ils ne laiſſeront pas de paſſer par-deſſus un article, dont leur paix avec l'Eſpagne dépend.

Ma lettre eſt devenu extrêmement longue, votre Alteſſe peut-être la trouvera ennuyante; je ne ſaurai pourtant m'empêcher, avant que de la finir, de repréſenter en abrégé à votre Alteſſe, ce que j'ai expliqué fort au long à Monſieur Lawleſs, des ſentimens de la Reine, ſur l'état préſent des négociations des Miniſtres d'Eſpagne; il paroît à ſa Majeſté, que le ſeul moyen d'ôter toutes les eſpérances de ceux, qui veulent encore pourſuivre la guerre, eſt de finir au plutôt les traités, ſur leſquels on diſpute préſentement, & qui ne paroiſſent pas devoir s'accrocher du tout. Les ennemis de la paix ſe flattent de l'arrivée de pluſieurs accidens, qui pourront déranger le ſyſtême, qui a été projeté pour le rétabliſſement de la tranquillité de l'Europe: ces Meſſieurs ſe flatteroient en vain & ſe repaîtroient des chimères, s'il n'y avoit que la paix de l'Empire imparfaite. Mais en vérité, Madame, ils ont quelque raiſon de prendre courage, quand ils voyent la ceſſion de la Sicile au Duc de Savoye, faite ſous les conditions, qui ne ſont point portées par le traité conclu dernièrement avec ce Prince; quand ils voyent ni armiſtice renouvellée ni paix ſignée avec le Portugal; enfin, quand ils ſauront que le traité de commerce, entre l'Eſpagne & la Grande Bretagne, après une négociation de pluſieurs mois, eſt encore ouverte; que pluſieurs articles en ſont refuſés; pluſieurs autres dreſſés d'une manière

vague ou ambigue; & que deux autres ſont envoyés de Madrid à Utrecht, c'eſt à dire, de ceux qui donnent les pouvoirs & les inſtructions, à ceux qui ne pouvent que recevoir les uns & exécuter les autres.

La Reine ne peut point douter que ſa Majeſté Catholique prenne, dans cette conjoncture importante, des réſolutions dignes de ſa prudence; & elle s'aſſure que votre Alteſſe, qui juſques ici a tant contribué à l'avancement de ce grand ouvrage, voudra y donner la dernière main, & ne pas le laiſſer imparfait.

Sa Majeſté ſe ſent fort obligée au Roi Catholique de l'attention, qu'il a bien voulu donner aux repréſentations du Miniſtre de France, ſur le ſujet du Prince de la Riccia. La Reine ſouhaiteroit fort que cet infortuné veillard peut être élargi de l'étroite priſon, où il a langui depuis ſi long-tems, ſous des conditions telles qu'il plairoit au Roi de préſcire; c'eſt un ſurcroît d'obligation qu'elle auroit à ſa Majeſté Catholique.

Je n'ai rien à ajouter à cette longue lettre, que des aſſurances du reſpectueux attachement, avec lequel j'ai l'honneur d'être, Madame, de votre Alteſſe le très, &c.

B.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Marli, le 6me Août, 1713.

C'EST avec beaucoup de plaiſir, my Lord, que je donne à Monſieur de la Faye, Gentilhomme Ordinaire de la Maiſon du Roi, la lettre qu'il me demande pour vous, étant perſuadé que vous ſerez bien aiſe de le connoître, & vous trouverez qu'il mérite par lui-même, les bontés que je vous ſupplie d'avoir pour lui. Il verra que les louanges qu'on vous donne ici, & dont il eſt fort touché, ſont encore au-deſſous la verité. J'eſpère que vous voudrez bien le croire, quand il vous aſſurera, que perſonne n'eſt plus véritablement que je ſuis, &c.

DE TORCY.

The

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Marli, le 6me Août, 1713.

QUELQUE bien que je ſouhaite, Monſieur, à l'Abbé Gaultier, je ne puis m'empêcher de lui envier le bonheur qu'il aura bientôt de ſe trouver auprès de vous. Je voudrois au moins pouvoir le partager avec lui, & qu'il fût établi de rendre viſites dans le cours de l'année à ceux qu'on honore, &, j'oſe dire, qu'on aime auſſi véritablement que vous méritez de l'être, quand on a eu l'honneur de vous connoître.

Je me rapporterois, Monſieur, à ce que l'Abbé Gaultier vous diroit de mes ſentimens, ſi je ne comptois encore plus ſur la juſtice, que vous me rendez, & dont vous avez bien voulu m'aſſurer encore par votre dernière lettre. Je vous ſupplie de ne recevoir jamais de confidence qui puiſſe y être contraire; &, de mon côté, je vous aſſure, que je me garderai bien de toute plaiſanterie, qu'on puiſſe fauſſement interpréter.

Je vois, Monſieur, avec beaucoup de plaiſir, que le principe de maintenir une bonne intelligence entre les deux Cours, eſt parfaitement établi de part & d'autre. J'eſpère qu'en le ſuivant conſtamment, les deſſeins des mal-intentionnés chez vous, tomberont, & je crois qu'ils ne ſubſiſteroient pas long-tems, s'il étoit poſſible d'éteindre ce reſte de guerre, que la Cour de Vienne veut entretenir, dans l'eſpérance qu'elle a des événemens, qui peuvent arriver en France & en Angleterre *.

Vous connoiſſez, Monſieur, les diſpoſitions du Roi pour la paix; peut être que ſi les ennemis en étoient moins perſuadés, ils chercheroient, avec plus d'empreſſement, les moyens de finir la guerre. Je ſouhaite que la Reine ait encore la ſatisfaction de contribuer à la terminer, nonobſtant l'éloignement, que les Allemands témoignent pour ſa médiation. Vous pouvez plus librement travailler à la faire valoir, préſentement que la ſéparation du Parlement vous donne plus de loiſir de ſonger

* Probably meaning the Deaths of the King of France, and of the Queen of Great Britain.

aux

aux affaires du dehors, & je crois que les inſtances & les offices de la Reine, pour la pacification générale, auront toujours beaucoup de force.

Conſervez-moi, je vous ſupplie, my Lord, la part que vous m'avez promiſe dans l'honneur de votre amitié. Perſonne, en vérité, ne la deſire plus que moi, & ne peut être avec un attachement plus parfait que je ſerai toute ma vie,

Votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

From Mr. Prior.

Paris, 11th Auguſt, at night, 1713.

I RECEIVED your's of the 25th, my dear Lord, this afternoon, and take the opportunity of acknowledging it by the holy Gaultier, who goes from hence to-morrow morning, and to him I leave the repreſentation of our affairs here.

This Court has complained of the infraction of the neutrality for Italy, as well to the Duke of Shrewſbury as to myſelf; but I do not think they take that matter ſo warmly, as the Duc d'Aumont ſeems to infer. I ſhall not fail to ſpeak the language which you dictate, in caſe there be occaſion for it, and in the mean time I thank you moſt kindly for preparing me in this behalf. I have mentioned Mr. Hare's affair to his Grace of Shrewſbury, and have been ſo far able to execute your orders, as to prevent any engagement to another. The anſwer I had, was what I expected from the Duke's modeſty and caution, that he could not truly ſay whether he was to go for Ireland or no; but that a thing of that nature would not be determined before he had ſpoken to your Lordſhip. In the mean time, I ſhall not fail to watch the *mollia tempora*, being very deſirous to ſucceed in what Lord Bolingbroke recommends

recommends to me, and indeed loving Mr. Hare very well, as he truly deſerves.

The Duke intends to be with you the end of this month; he is very weary of us here, and will not, I think, be much pleaſed with moſt of you on that ſide; I own to you, that I am a good deal troubled, that theſe people begin to ſmoke us, eſpecially, not being ſuperabundantly inſtructed to anſwer ſome objections, that even Pontchartrain can make to our conduct; but of this you will hear more from the Duke of Shrewſbury, *facere officium taliter qualiter*, is my motto: I will do what I can for my country and my friends, and ſo far at leaſt endeavour to imitate my Lord Bolingbroke.

I am more concerned for what you write about Lord Treaſurer's health, than I thought I could have been for any thing; and as to my own affairs, I can no more advance them, than add a cubit to my ſtature, ſo *benedictum ſit nomen Domini*, and the bully writ round his coin when he was banged.

Adieu, my dear Lord, I am moſt gratefully, &c.

MATT.

I juſt now ſit down to table with my Abbé, where we wiſh my Lord Bolingbroke, health, proſperity, garter, love, and every thing that can pleaſe him.

Adieu, my Lord, ever yours.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, Auguſt 7th, 1713.

THE former part of the laſt week was taken up in a journey to Windſor, where I could not fail to be, ſince attending the inſtallation gave me an opportunity of ſhowing the eſteem and friendſhip

I have for your Lordſhip: the latter part of the week was broken by the Council held at Hampton-Court. Thus, my Lord, my arrear of public and private buſineſs is increaſed; I now ſit down to pay my debts; and the firſt which my inclination leads me to acknowledge, is your letter of the 5th, N.S. I ſhould be very glad to account for every thing, the clearing whereof might contribute to your ſatisfaction, but that is not always in the power of one who affects no curioſity, and who, out of the ſphere deſigned him to move in, knows little more than what is voluntarily told him.

My Lord Treaſurer's great and tedious illneſs, his unreaſonable proportion of buſineſs when he is well, and perhaps his confidence that your Lordſhip will, ſooner than thoſe with whom he has not the ſame intimacy, excuſe an omiſſion of this ſort, may probably be the cauſes why your letters to him have not received punctual anſwers.

The particulars your Lordſhip mentions relating to money, I am not apprized of my Lord Treaſurer's reaſons or intentions upon: I will take a proper opportunity to aſk both. In the mean time, allow me to obſerve, that none of the Queen's ſervants are, in this reſpect, on a very good foot. I neither have received, nor expect to receive, any thing on account of the journey, which I took laſt year, by her Majeſty's order; and as to my regular appointments, I do aſſure your Lordſhip, I have heard nothing of them theſe two years. I am far from thinking that my caſe ſhould be a rule to your Lordſhip, but a general grievance is much more tolerable than a particular one.

I wiſh, with all my heart, that all the buſineſs in Holland was over, but, my Lord, I fear there remains much behind. The treaty of commerce with Spain, which was to be finally ſettled at Madrid, is, by a complication of miſtake and accident, ſtill open, and muſt receive the laſt hand at Utrecht. The Portugueſe muſt be pilotted into port. Other points of an inferior nature I omit, but one I muſt touch, becauſe I

think

think that the Queen's honour requires that it ſhould be thought of: her Majeſty has made the peace, as far as it is made, and ſurely, before the Congreſs ſeparates entirely, before her Miniſters leave the place, one effort ſhould be made towards bringing in the powers, which continue refractory, towards completing her work. Theſe conſiderations ſhow your Lordſhip, that you cannot be yet-awhile ſpared from the double capacity in which you at preſent act; and as they are bars to your returning home, ſo ſoon as your friends would wiſh to ſee you, ſo muſt they be obſtacles to your going into France, if her Majeſty had thoughts of appointing you to that embaſſy, ſince it would neither be for the Queen's ſervice, nor for your Lordſhip's honour, to leave the leaſt part of that work, which you have ſo ſignally carried on, through difficulties ſo numerous and ſo great, to be completed by any other hand.

I write ſincerely what occurs to my thoughts; you are uſed to take my frankneſs in good part, and give me leave to ſay, you ought to do ſo, ſince it proceeds from that true value and affectionate concern which I have, my dear Lord, for you.

I am, &c.

B.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, Auguſt 18th, 1713.

WHEN I came this morning hither, I found a packet from my Lord Lexington, and a mail from Holland, arrived; the former contains a great number of papers, which only ſerve to ſhow, that the Court of Spain have not thought fit to keep their word in the caſe of

the Duke of Savoy. Theſe letters are dated the 14th of this month, N.S. The courier whom I laſt diſpatched was not then come to Madrid. I am hopeful that when he does, the Catholic King will take new reſolutions, ſince I find that the letters, which went by the former, have produced more reaſonable orders to the Spaniſh Miniſters at Utrecht, in the affairs of Portugal.

The Earl of Strafford writes, on the 26th inſtant, that the Emperor has been endeavouring to get the mediation of the peace of the North ſolely to himſelf, upon a pretence that your Majeſty had entered into meaſures with France, for this purpoſe, excluſively of him. The contrary to this being true, your Majeſty having avoided any concert with France, and having continually repeated your inſtances to the Emperor and to the States, that they would join with you in this mediation, it is no difficult taſk for your ſervants to deſtroy any impreſſion which may have been made by this artifice.

Monſieur de Gerſdorf has aſſured my Lord Strafford, that the King's orders were gone to recal the Electoral Prince of Saxony out of Italy, and to replace the Proteſtant ſervants about him; Monſieur de Gerſdorf added, that he believed the Prince would ſoon have the honour to wait on your Majeſty. I wiſh the Saxon Miniſter may be in the right, but neither Mr. Scot, nor Monſieur d'Elorme here, as yet ſaid ſo much.

The Spaniards and the Dutch have not concluded, which ſeems of no diſadvantage, ſince your Majeſty's treaty of commerce is ſtill open.

Monſieur d'Ahlfeldt has told the Earl of Strafford, that the King of Denmark will be content to raiſe the blockade of Tonningen, provided your Majeſty and others (by whom, I ſuppoſe, he means the Emperor, the States-General, and the Elector of Hanover) put a joint garriſon into the place. I have not heard from Mr. Roſenkrantz upon this ſubject, but hope I may to-morrow.

Monſieur

Monſieur de Montéleon informs your Majeſty's ſervants, that his maſter thinks of beſieging Barcelona, that town refuſing to ſubmit to him; I do not, however, perceive, that the Spaniards are very well prepared for ſuch a ſiege.

The plague actually rages in many parts of the Empire. The King of Pruſſia has forbid all commerce with Auſtria, Moravia, Bohemia, Sileſia, and Ratiſbon. The ſickneſs at Vienna, is got amongſt the ſervants of the Emperor's family, but his Imperial Majeſty is not yet removed. My letters from Hamburgh give but too much reaſon to believe, that this town is at laſt infected, notwithſtanding all the care which has been taken in that city to prevent it.

I preſume to incloſe to your Majeſty, the warrant for making the Earl of Plymouth Lord Lieutenant of Denbigh and Flint, my Lord Treaſurer having told me, that this warrant admitted of no difficulty, and my Lord Plymouth, preſſing extremely to go out of town, becauſe of his health, which is very bad. I have been employed all this day with Mr. Secretary Bromley, and have given him, as I ſhall continue to do, the beſt information and aſſiſtance I am able. I hope, to bring down to Windſor, on Friday, all the buſineſs in the two offices ready for your Majeſty's commands.

I am, &c.

B.

To the Biſhop of London *.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, Auguſt 19th, 1713.

ON Mr. Bromley's promotion to the Secretary's office, the Queen has thought it for her ſervice, that I ſhould take the ſouthern province under my care. Your Excellency does me, I am perſuaded, the juſtice to believe, that I quit with regret, a correſpondence which I have ſo long had the pleaſure of entertaining, and in which it has been my peculiar happineſs to contribute in ſome ſmall degree to the greateſt event, that this age will in all probability behold.

Mr. Secretary Bromley going for ſome days, into the country, to ſettle his private affairs, before he enters on the buſineſs of his department, I ſhall have the honour during that time, to lay your Excellency's diſpatches before the Queen, and to communicate her Majeſty's orders to you.

Allow me, my Lord, to take this opportunity of aſſuring you, that I join with all honeſt men, and true ſons of the Church of England, in rejoicing very heartily at your promotion to the ſee of London; and that I ſincerely deſire, ſince your Excellency's inclination to do good can never increaſe, that, by her Majeſty's future favours, more ample occaſions of doing it, may be ſtill furniſhed to you.

I am, my Lord, &c.

B.

* Tranſlated from Briſtol; at this time alſo, many changes occured in the public offices. Francis Gwin, made Secretary at War, vice Sir William Wyndham, Earl of Mar, third Secretary of State. Lord Dartmouth, Privy Seal, vice Biſhop of London. William Bromley, Secretary of State, vice Dartmouth. Sir William Wyndham, Chancellor of Exchequer, vice Benſon, created Lord Bingly, and appointed Ambaſſador to Madrid.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, Auguſt 19th, 1713.

YOU will find my other diſpatch extremely dry, and indeed it cannot be otherwiſe. Shifting employments, and ſome little ferments, in order to come to a better, I hope, and a more firm ſettlement, has retarded the progreſs of all foreign buſineſs to a great degree, and I have now bundles of letters and memorials of both provinces, enough to ſcare a man from his office, and to hinder him from returning back to his poſt.

Your Excellency ſees by what I write in my joint-letter, that her Majeſty thinks fit to place me in the ſouthern province. So that after Mr. Secretary Bromley's return from the country, whither he is going to-morrow, for ſome few days, the direct and open correſpondence with you will be in his hands. The private intercourſe of friendſhip, I flatter myſelf, my Lord, you will allow me to keep up. Whatever province I act in, whatever ſituation fortune or my own choice throw me into, you really have not (I will, on this occaſion, aſſume) in the world, a more ſincere and affectionate friend than myſelf; and whenever you conſider the tenour of my conduct, you will do me that juſtice. Adieu, my dear Lord, preſerve me in your good graces, and depend on me as

Your ever faithful, &c.

B.

To Mr. Breton.

DEAR SIR,

Whitehall, Auguſt 19th, 1713.

I FOUND, by your laſt letter, and by one of a freſher date from your ſecretary, that you are ill, for which, give me leave to aſſure you, that I am moſt heartily concerned, and that if I was myſelf in the worſt eſtate, I could not more ardently deſire the return of my own health, than I do that of my friend.

You will find by a circular, that the Earl of Dartmouth being made Privy Seal, and Mr. Bromley coming to be Secretary of State, the Queen has thought fit that I ſhould remove to the ſouthern province; your public and regular correſpondence will be thus turned over to another hand, but to ſuch a one as you will be perfectly ſatisfied with, ſince greater probity and exactneſs can no where be found, than Mr. Secretary Bromley is maſter of. I ſhall continue to write to you, as I hope you will do to me.

Though the ſtate of the affairs of Europe, which ſtill continue ruffled, notwithſtanding all that has been done to calm them, and though the characters of the parties concerned in the Northern war, have hitherto retarded all meaſures of accommodation of thoſe troubles, yet neceſſity will, one way or other, ſoon beget a negociation, and eſpecially if a treaty is renewed, as I think it muſt be, towards the end of the campaign, between the Emperor and France. Theſe circumſtances muſt render your poſt a very buſy one, and conſequently make it the more agreeable to you. However, if you find the leaſt uneaſineſs where you are, communicate your thoughts to me with all freedom, and I will turn things ſo as to bring you into the ſouthern province; for I would by no means have you quit the tract of buſineſs you are now engaged in; this knowledge, theſe habits, muſt at all times be of uſe,

and

and a court will always be more in want of them, than almoſt any man who poſſeſſes them can be of a court.

Our war is at an end, our army broke, and our military merit will ſoon be forgot after the trade is ceaſed. Should we have future occaſions of any kind to form armies, thoſe who are moſt in the way will naturally firſt return, and take their riſe from the ſtate they may at that time be in, not from the condition they were at the determination of the war we are now got out of. I write to you what I turn in my thoughts, what I ſhould think to be prudent in my own caſe, and what appears to me a wiſe view for a man of honour and ſpirit to purſue, who deſires to make a figure in the world, and to carry on the ſervice of his country.

I muſt not omit to tell you a piece of news, which all of us, who are employed by the Queen, have reaſon to be glad of: the money given by Parliament, for paying the Queen's debts, is going to be raiſed, and the eſtabliſhment to be ſo ſettled as to admit of no exceedings, and conſequently ſo as to enable her Majeſty punctually to pay her ſervants for the future. Adieu, dear Breton; I am, from the bottom of my ſoul, what I ever will be till death, and if poſsible afterwards, your moſt

Sincere, affectionate friend, &c.

B.

To the Duke of Shrewſbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, Auguſt 20, 1713.

HAVING this moment received from my Lord Treaſurer the letter which accompanies this to your Grace, I diſpatch a courier, who will, I hope, not go far before he meets you.

I received the honour of your laſt letter, and the paſſage with which you entruſted the Abbé Gaultier. Your Grace is, I hope, aſſured, that

nothing can make me take any meaſures ſeparate from you, and thoſe friends with whom I am now embarked. I ſay no more, becauſe I pleaſe myſelf with the thoughts of kiſſing your Grace's hands in ſo few days.

My Lord Treaſurer tells me, that he gives your Grace an account of her Majeſty's deſigns with reſpect to your Grace yourſelf, and with the alterations ſhe has lately made among her ſervants. I have, therefore, no more to do, but to wiſh your Grace a ſpeedy and agreeable paſſage, and to aſſure you I am, with all poſſible reſpect, my Lord, &c.

B.

To Mr. Gilligan.

SIR,

Whitehall *, Auguſt 25th, 1713.

I SHALL not be able to come to town this week, and therefore find myſelf obliged to give you the trouble of this letter. It begins to be high time that my Lords the Ambaſſadors in Holland ſhould receive her Majeſty's inſtructions; thoſe from the king of Spain to his Miniſters being arrived at Utrecht, a good while ſince, for ſettling and perfecting the draught of our treaty of commerce with Spain, in due form. I am, therefore, to deſire, that you would, if poſſible, by Thurſday, or by Friday next, finiſh, in Engliſh, the ſubſtance of all ſuch articles as you judge neceſſary to ſtand, and to be inſiſted upon, together with obſervations on the differences which have ariſen, or which may ariſe in negotiating the ſeveral points contained in them; to this I think it will be proper to add your remarks on the greater or leſs conſequence of the articles

* This letter, though dated Whitehall, appears, from its contents, to have been written at Windſor.

cles refuſed by the Spaniards, or laid aſide by us. When you ſhall have done this, you will pleaſe to conſult and agree with my Lord Guildford, and ſuch of the Commiſſioners of Trade as may be in town, at leaſt on the general ſcheme, reſerving ſuch particulars, either of fact, or of argument, as you ſhall judge proper to be kept ſecret, till you ſee me. I could very much wiſh, that you would, on Friday, take the trouble of coming down hither; in which caſe I ſhould be able to take the Queen's final pleaſure, to draw the inſtructions thereupon, and to diſpatch them the next day, by a courier, to Utrecht. I write to my Lord Guildford in general terms about this work, without taking any notice of my letter to you.

I am, &c.

B.

A Monſieur le Comte de Maffei.

MONSIEUR,

Du Château de Windſor, ce 26me Août, 1713.

JE viens de faire à la Reine la lecture de la lettre de ſon Alteſſe Royale, auſſi-bien que de celle que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire. Vous connoiſſez ſi parfaitement les ſentimens de ſa Majeſté, & la réſolution qu'elle a priſe à l'égard du procédé très-extraordinaire (pour ne rien dire de pis) de la Cour d'Eſpagne, au ſujet du traité, conclu en dernier lieu à Utrecht, avec ſon Alteſſe Royale, qu'il n'eſt pas néceſſaire que je m'étende là-deſſus. Il ſuffira donc que je vous diſe que la Reine goûte fort le deſſein de votre maître, qu'il prenne la poſſeſſion réelle de la Sicile, & qu'il laiſſe à nous autres le ſoin de gronder les Eſpagnols, en attendant qu'il ſoit en état quand il ne craindra plus les longueurs de parler ſur un autre ton, qu'il ne doit faire dans la ſituation préſente.

J'écrirai de nouveau, & en France, & en Eſpagne, & à Utrecht. Le

ſecret que ſon Alteſſe Royale demande ſera inviolablement gardé. Vous ferez, s'il vous plaît, mes complimens au Marquis de Trivié * & vous aurez la bonté de le prévenir en ma faveur. La Reine lui donnera ſon audience le Lundi prochain, devant le dîner ; j'eſpère que vous le menerez manger la ſoupe chez moi. Je me flatte que vous ſerez contente de la manière dont j'ai dreſſé vos lettres de recréance.

Je ſuis, &c.

B.

A Monſieur le Comte de Maffei.

Du Château de Windſor, ce 28me Août, 1713.

JE viens, Monſieur, dans ce moment de recevoir la lettre, que vous m'avez fait hier l'honneur de m'écrire. Meſſieurs les Plénipotentiaires de la Reine, qui ſont en Hollande, ſeront inſtruits de la manière que vous le ſouhaitez. Vous avez très-bien fait de ne rien déguiſer à my Lord Peterborough. Il eſt néceſſaire qu'il ſoit au fait de tout ce qui regarde les intérêts de ſon Alteſſe Royale, puiſqu'il eſt deſtiné par la Reine pour l'ambaſſade auprès de votre maître.

Je ſuis, &c.

B.

A Monsieur le Comte de Maffei.

Du Château de Windſor, ce 1me Septembre, 1713.

LES lettres que j'ai reçu d'Hollande, pendant que nous dînames enſemble, m'apportoient à-peu-près les mêmes choſes que le Marquis de Bourg vous écrit. En vérité, Monſieur, il n'eſt pas permis d'en uſer, comme

* Ambaſſador from the Duke of Savoy, to ſucceed Maffei.

comme la Cour de Madrid vient de faire, mais il faut diſſimuler notre reſſentiment pour le faire éclater plus efficacement en tems & lieu. La Reine ſuivra le concert que je vous ai propoſé hier. J'écris à Utrecht, & par tout ailleurs, que la Reine ſe croira juſtifiée, après les démarches récentes de la Cour d'Eſpagne, en prenant la précaution de ne point échanger ſes ratifications, juſques à ce qu'elle voit ſon Alteſſe Royale dans la poſſeſſion actuelle de la Sicile. Je ne parle plus un mot du vieux ni du nouveau traité ; au contraire, je laiſſe à croire à Meſſieurs les Eſpagnols que la Reine ne regarde que l'avenir. Aſſurez hadiment votre maître, qu'il peut compter ſur toute la bonne volonté & toute la fermeté poſſible de ce côté-ci. Vous ſavez, Monſieur, que nous ne manquerons ni de l'une ni de l'autre.

Je vous envoye la copie de votre lettre de recréance, l'original ſera envoyé à Monſieur le Baron Péronne Vendredi prochain, avec des lettres de cachet, tant pour ſon Alteſſe Royale que pour Madame la Ducheſſe & Madame Royale. Comme je n'ai point pu trouver dans le bureau du département du Sud ni vos lettres de créance, ni les lettres que Madame la Ducheſſe et Madame Royale auront apparemment, écrit à la Reine dans ce tems-là, j'ai éte obligé de dreſſer la première ſur celle de recréance, et ſa Majeſté a voulu là-dedans vous rendre la juſtice que vous méritez. Les lettres de cachet que vous recevrez, ſeront des réponſes à celles que Monſieur de Trivié a apporté. J'ai fait de la meilleure grâce que j'ai pu, vos complimens à la Reine, qui vous ſouhaite toute ſorte de bonheur. Je ne manquerai pas de vous envoyer une lettre que je prendrai la liberté d'écrire à ſon Alteſſe Royale, pour la remercier des bontés qu'elle a bien voulu avoir pour moi, et pour l'aſſurer du reſpectueux attachement avec lequel je ſerai toute ma vie dévoué à ſon ſervice.

Ayez, s'il vous plaît, la bonté de me faire ſavoir ſi vous ſouhaitez, que dans les lettres de cachet, qui doivent être écrites demain, la Reine

ſe ſerve du ſtyle Royal, celle de recréance, ayant été faite & dattée, avant que nous reçumes les nouvelles de l'échange de vos ratifications, eſt dans le vieux ſtyle.

Adieu, mon cher Comte, conſervez-moi votre précieuſe amitié, & ſoyez aſſuré que, parmi tous le changemens & caprices de la fortune, auxquels un Miniſtre Anglois eſt expoſé, rien ne ſera capable d'altérer cette eſtime parfaite avec laquelle

Je ſerai, &c.

B.

To Mr. Prior.

Windſor Caſtle, September 1ſt, 1713.

I WRITE this private letter to you, my good friend, to explain a paſſage in my public diſpatch.

You know in how ſaucy a manner we ſuffered ourſelves to be uſed at the latter end of the laſt Seſſion, by Halifax, Cooper, and others, who had neither ſpirit nor ſkill to work through a negociation like ours, and who yet had the front to object, even to the beſt part of the treaty of commerce. Among other things which they laid hold of, partly becauſe they did not themſelves know what they debated upon, and partly from a deſire to aſk for whatever might perplex and delay, they took notice that the ninth article mentioned a rule, *normam tunc temporis præſcriptam* (I write on my memory) which was to take place in thoſe provinces, where the tarif of 1664 had not formerly, and was not now to operate. When this was once or twice mentioned, though I was in the houſe, I neglected either explaining it or giving them any anſwer, out of pure contempt. In private diſcourſe, I told ſeveral of them the true ſtate of the caſe, that the tarif of 1664 having raiſed the impoſitions

positions to a tolerable proportion, and subsequent tarifs to an intolerable degree, it was necessary to stipulate the revocation of all these posterior books of rates, and the reduction of all duties to the standard of 1664; but that neither we, nor the Dutch, nor any other people, had ever thought it necessary to say any thing more, than what is said in the treaty about those provinces, which are not affected by these several tarifs, since it is notorious that in them the same duties as were levied in the year 1664, have been ever since continued, without any alteration, and that this establishment has remained so long unmolested, that I durst say, no minister, who ever treated with France, had ever thought it worth his while to examine into the particulars, or to collect an entire state from the number of volumes which must be extracted, because this would be nothing more than to spend time, and take immense pains, to prove what no man living disputes. But, when I was out of the House, the question was again asked, complaints were made that it had received no answer, and Lord Guildford was forced to say, in the name of his board *, that such an account as they desired should be prepared for them. Employ yourself, therefore, dear Matt, to have a state of the duties payable in the several provinces, where the tarif of 1664 does not operate, got ready. You know, that in our country, it is not enough to do well, and to be able to reply, before impartial judges, to reasonable questions: we must be ready to answer the most absurd queries, that malice can invent, or ignorance put.

Lord Treasurer is not yet returned from Wimple, but we expect him hourly; and I take it for granted, that his son is by this time wedded †. He has established his family now beyond what he could expect, and I am heartily rejoiced at it: let him establish the Queen's administration on a sure and lasting principle, and I think I have virtue enough to acquit him

* Of trade. † To the daughter of the Duke of Newcastle.

of

of any reward I may be thought to deſerve; I could take the trouble of contributing to ſuch a work, as full and ample recompence.

Adieu, dear Matt, ever the ſame,

B.

To the Biſhop of London.*

My Lord,

Windſor Caſtle, September 1ſt, 1713.

I MUST not acknowledge the honour of your Excellency's private letter, till I have had that of obeying the Queen's commands, who directs me to acquaint your Excellency, that ſhe is determined to tranſlate you to the ſee of London, not only as a teſtimony of the great ſatisfaction which ſhe has in all the ſignal ſervices you have rendered her in the courſe of this difficult negociation, but alſo becauſe her Majeſty judged, that your Excellency would have in this ſtation larger opportunities of employing thoſe talents, which God has given you, to promote, what ſhe has above all things at heart, the good of the Church of England, and the advancement of the Proteſtant intereſt abroad. The Queen, therefore, hopes, my Lord, that your Excellency will receive this mark of her eſteem as ſhe intends it; and that you will be perſuaded, as her Majeſty is, that when you return from the Congreſs, which you will have orders very ſpeedily to do, you cannot ſerve God and the Queen any where ſo eminently, as in that church to the care of which your Excellency is now elected.

I muſt attribute your favourable expreſſions, which you are pleaſed to uſe of me, to the indulgence of your own nature, and think myſelf happy that I am judged of by one whoſe charity is ſufficient to allow

* An official letter, announcing, in form, his tranſlation to the ſee of London.

for

for the many defects which his penetration muſt have diſcovered. Add to all your favours, my Lord, the juſtice of being convinced that I have the trueſt reverence for your ſacred, and the moſt unfeigned reſpect for your perſonal, character, that any man can have, who profeſſes himſelf, as I do, my Lord,

Your Excellency's, &c.

B. *

To

* The following paper was found among the Bolingbroke MSS.

Short Heads, from the Biſhop of London, of the Negociations at Utrecht.

" Her Majeſty's Miniſters for the Congreſs at Utrecht, were arrived there by the 17th of January, N.S. 1712; two of the Plenipotentiaries of the States-General came the day after, and were followed, the 19th, by thoſe of France: the other Miniſters of the States were not all arrived till the beginning of February.—The Marquis del Bourg, Miniſter of Savoy, came the 20th. The 29th the firſt general conference was held, at the Town-houſe, between all the Miniſters of the Allies, upon the peace, and thoſe of France. February the 3rd, Count Metternich, one of the Plenipotentiaries of Pruſſia, arrived. The 9th, Count Sinzendorf and Mr. Conſbruch, two of the Imperialiſts, came. The 11th, the French, at a general conference, delivered in their offers, in writing, to all the allies, which they propoſed to have done ſooner, but at the deſire of the latter, it was deferred, to give to the abſent Miniſters time to repair to the Congreſs.

" The 12th, Count Tarouca, one of the Miniſters of Portugal, and Count Maffei of Savoy, appeared for the firſt time at the conferences. The 5th of March, the allies gave in their demands to the French Miniſters; the Imperial Miniſter having before declared he could not be ready at a ſhorter term, being under a neceſſity of receiving freſh orders from Vienna. At a conference held the 9th, it was propoſed by the Miniſters of France, and agreed by thoſe of the Allies, that they ſhould return a ſpecific anſwer in three weeks. The 30th, at another general conference, the Plenipotentiaries of France declared, that as propoſitions had already been given on both ſides in writing, they were now ready to proceed in the negociation, by debating with the ſeveral Allies, agreeably to the method uſed in former Congreſſes. The Miniſters of the Allies having retired into another apartment, and conſulted among themſelves, returned, and acquainted thoſe of France, that they were in expectation to have received an anſwer in writing from them, which they thought the French were obliged to, and therefore deſired them to anſwer that expectation. The Marſhal d'Uxelles replied, that if they were under that obligation, they muſt make it good, if not, the Allies had no right to preſs it, and therefore deſired the minutes of the protocol might be read, to ſhow they were not ſo obliged, no mention being made of an anſwer to be returned by them in writing. It was urged on the other ſide, that it was a natural method, that to the Allies' ſpecific demands, ſpecific anſwers ſhould be returned. The French Plenipotentiaries replied, that both ſides having already explained themſelves in writing, it was agreeable to the method of all negociations to proceed to debate matters, and that in ſuch debate ſpecific anſwers would occur. The determination was referred to the next general conference. The day following, the Miniſters of the Allies met to deliberate upon the anſwer to be returned. The Imperialiſts moved, that a written anſwer ſhould be inſiſted on, and moſt of the other Miniſters were of the ſame opinion. Thoſe of her Majeſty, thought it more proper to go the ſhorteſt way to work, and begin them without loſs of time, in the method they muſt of neceſſity come to at laſt; it being certain, whatever could be writ would be only preparatory to verbal debates, they were earneſtly preſſed to concur in the ſentiment of the reſt, and therefore that no marks of diſagreement might appear, they finally conſented to an inſtance, which was accordingly made, the 2d of April, to the French Miniſters, and of which the purport was, that they (the Miniſters of the Allies) had already told them they continued in their expectation of having an anſwer in writing; and that they had ſince that again deliberated upon it, and were ſtill of the

To the Biſhop of London.

MY LORD,

Windſor Caſtle, September 2d, 1713.

IT is late at night, and the meſſenger is going, but I muſt take time to return your Excellency my moſt humble thanks for the honour of your letter of the 8th, N.S. and for the confidence you are ſo good and

ſame opinion, and conſequently inſiſted upon an anſwer in writing. The Miniſters of France ſtill perſiſted in their refuſal. Thoſe of the Allies did not meet again on that ſubject till the 5th, in which interval Count Sinzendorf had been at the Hague, where the reſolution was taken to carry things to extremity; that is, not to treat with the Miniſters of the moſt Chriſtian King, unleſs they gave an anſwer in writing, and orders were accordingly ſent by the States to their Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, to act in conformity; this being foreſeen, care was taken to prevent it, which was done by a declaration the French Miniſters made (the 6th) after thoſe of the Allies had earneſtly inſiſted for the third time, for an anſwer in writing, that their inſtructions allowed them to go no farther than they had offered, and all they could do was to write to the King their maſter, to know his pleaſure. The Allies had nothing to ſay againſt this, and were ſo little prepared for ſuch a declaration, that they did not think of ſetting a time. May 2d, Baron Bothmar appeared for the firſt time in the aſſembly of the Allies, the above-mentioned obſtructions retarded all proceedings till Auguſt following: in all which time no motion was made on the part of the Allies, for an anſwer from the French; though at the ſame time, the Imperialiſts were puſhing to get the Congreſs broke, or at leaſt her Majeſty's Miniſters excluded, as was aſſured.—In Auguſt, they, at the inſtance of the Imperialiſts and Dutch, had ſeveral conferences with them and the French Miniſters, about the manner of reſuming the general conferences; ſeveral expedients were propoſed for that end, but the Imperial, French, and Dutch Plenipotentiaries could not agree to join in any one method; till the quarrel between Monſieur Meſnager and Count Rechteren, which began the 18th of Auguſt, became a new obſtruction.

"The 2nd of September, the Miniſters of France received orders thereupon, to deſire thoſe of her Majeſty to acquaint the States-General, that the King their maſter expected the States ſhould diſavow the ſaid Count, and remove him from the Congreſs; and that ſatisfaction for the affront ſhould precede any farther negociation with them; which their Excellencies accordingly did. The latter end of September, the States deſired her Majeſty's Miniſters to deliver to thoſe of France, their offers of ſatisfaction, which the latter found to fall ſo much ſhort of the terms required by his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, that the moſt they could be brought to do, was to tranſmit a copy of them to their Court. Upon the return of the courier, they informed the Miniſters of the States, that the offers of their Principals were not ſufficient, and that the King their maſter inſiſted on his firſt demand of ſatisfaction.

"This difficulty could not be overcome till the 30th of January, N.S. 1712-13, when three of the Miniſters of the States, purſuant to the orders they received from the Hague, went to the Marſhal d'Uxelles' houſe, and made the declaration required by thoſe of France. This obſtruction, which, together with the former, had ſo long retarded the negociation, being at laſt removed, the Miniſters of the Allies made no farther difficulties to go on with the treaty, in the method her Majeſty's Miniſters had adviſed, ten months before; and as all the reſt, ſo thoſe of the Emperor alſo, ſhowed an inclination to promote the treaty, and, with the aſſiſtance of her Majeſty's Miniſters, as all the reſt of the Allies did, held ſeveral conferences with thoſe of France, in order to adjuſt their reſpective intereſts. This method ſucceeded to that degree, that in two months after the negociation was reſumed, all the parties in the war made their peace with France, except the Emperor and Empire; whoſe

and ſo juſt as to place in me. I have been again with the Queen, on your Excellency's ſubject, and I do aſſure you, that the reaſon which has induced her Majeſty to make this alteration in your circumſtances is this, and no other: ſhe judges that ſhe can find no perſon ſo capable to do ſervice to the church and ſtate, as your Excellency, at the head of the dioceſe of London, Dean of her chapel, carrying on the correſpondence with the Proteſtants abroad, and keeping your ſeat in the Cabinet Council. That this alteration is made, in this point of time, is owing to the late Biſhop's dying as he did. We imagine here, that there can be no difficulty, as to your rank; your Excellency was ſworn a Privy Couſellor, as Lord Privy Seal; your ceaſing to be the latter, makes no alteration as to the former; and this rule ſeems equally applicable to the rank of Plenipotentiary. Her Majeſty commands me to ſay this is her ſenſe; and that ſhe will not ſuffer you to ſtand abroad in any other degree, than what you have hitherto done. If, from difficulties which may be ſtarted where you are, it appears neceſſary, her Majeſty will, I am confident, either ſend a new commiſſion, wherein you ſhall be firſt named, or recal you. Though I am removed to another province, I pique myſelf on ſettling this matter to your Excellency's ſatisfaction, and therefore deſire your farther commands may be laid on, my Lord, your Excellency's, &c.

B.

whoſe Miniſters, nevertheleſs, had brought things ſo near, that upon ſuppoſition that the Imperialiſts would have ſtood to their former conceſſions, at the laſt meeting they had with the French, in the preſence of her Majeſty's Miniſters, May the 15th, there only remained a difference between them, in reference to the marquiſate of Burgaw, which was eſtimated to be of the yearly value of about 12,000 crowns. It was in this ſtate that the ſaid negociation was left by the laſt of the Imperial Miniſters, Monſieur Kirchner, who quitted Utrecht two days after. Theſe obſtructions, which delayed the peace with France, had alſo their effect on that with Spain, which was rendered yet more tedious by the refuſing of paſſports to the Miniſters of that Crown, about fourteen months after the Congreſs was begun; ſo that the firſt Spaniſh Plenipotentiary, the Duke d'Oſſuna, came not to Utrecht, till the 19th of April, N.S. 1713, and his collegue, the Marquis de Montéleon, did not arrive till June following, yet as all the eſſentials of the treaty of peace had been previouſly prepared and ſettled, it was perfected and ſigned in form, the 13th of July, N.S.

"The treaty of commerce needed ſome time; the Spaniſh Miniſters thinking themſelves obliged to make ſeveral applications their Court, each of which took up five or ſix weeks, in order to clear ſome doubts that aroſe in wording the articles; and accordingly it was not finiſhed and ſigned till the 9th of December, N.S. 1713."

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Windſor-Caſtle, September 2d, 1713.

AS I mean nothing but what is kind and reſpectful to your Excellency, ſo I am extremely glad that you are pleaſed to underſtand me as I mean. My dear Lord, we live in difficult times, and the characters of the perſons we have to deal with, can in no times be expected to prove as we could wiſh; from the firſt of theſe truths, I deduce the neceſſity of keeping united, and fanning that common zeal, which has hitherto burnt in all our breaſts; from the laſt I would argue, that as it is not right always to truſt, ſo neither is it right always to diſtruſt upon appearances. Was I in the reach of explaining myſelf by word of mouth, I could convince you, that this doctrine is found in general, and in particular in our country at this time; at leaſt, I am ſo much perſuaded of its being ſo, that it has made me (I ſpeak to none but my intimate friend) paſs over mortifications, which I would have been crucified rather than have endured. As to your doubts concerning the Treaſurer, I will help to clear them, but take my advice, and write freely and amicably to him about them. You refine, my dear Lord, about Prior; he is not intended to ſtay there, and I vow to God, I know of no reaſon, but the want of you where you are, and after that, at home, why you have not been named for the embaſſy of France.

Adieu, my Lord, I am, &c.

B.

From

From Mr. Prior.

Paris, September 5th, 1713, N.S.

THE deſign of this letter ſhould be to tell my Lord Bolingbroke, how glad I am that he is become my provincial; but I will vow that it is amongſt the *enarrabilia*, and as our friend Horace has it, *quod nequeo monſtrare ac ſentio tantum.*

Now how conſtantly will you have letters from your friend Mat, when his duty and inclination are ſo much the ſame. Iberville, who is coming over to you, is as glad of this change as myſelf; you will find him a talkative, good-natured man. I think the deſign of his coming to you, is that a chapel may be kept open, till an Ambaſſador may come; our zeal upon that ſubject is not ſo fervent, at leaſt I have neither heard of chaplain, bell, book, or candle; yet it is now a year complete, ſince you returned to England—*Sed defluit ætas?*

I have ſo much obligation to the Duke of Shrewſbury, that I have reaſon to expect more, and I hope he will ſettle my deſtiny with Lord Treaſurer and yourſelf. He will tell you his thoughts upon the choice of a Miniſter for this Court; that it muſt be a man of good quality, or ſomebody that lives very like one. He will likewiſe tell you, by his own experience, how expenſive Paris is, but this being every Miniſter's ſong, from Walſingham and Wootton to this preſent writing, it ſignifies not much to enlarge upon it.

I have ten horſes in my ſtable, knaves in proportion; and am going to Fontainbleau (having been, by the bye, particularly invited by the Monarch, *vivâ voce*) as ſoon as I ſhall have ranged my papers, and ſettled the literal correſpondence, of which I have already writ to you, between our Directors of the Poſt and Monſieur Pajot: it is every day more obſervable that theſe people are indifferent as to this agreement, ſince our affair of

commerce had not the effect we hoped; to vex you no farther upon that head, it is plain, that we loſt our bill; the Hollander has loaded above eighty veſſels from Bourdeaux, &c. and will turn a million of money to their own advantage by ſo doing.

The Duke of Shrewſbury will give you an account of the ſtate of our greater affairs relating to this Court, and brings you all the renunciations except that of the *Chambre de Nantes*, which I ſhall ſend as ſoon as Monſieur de Torcy ſhall have received and given it to me. He continues ſtill the ſame fair-conditioned and obliging man, and I believe, I ſhall be able to give you a good account of things of ſmaller conſequence, yet undetermined, as far as they lie in his province; but as to ſome of our maritime cauſes, under Pontchartrain's department, and in which a little favour was required, I can ſay very little to the conſolation of the perſons concerned, or the praiſe of the Miniſter who was to help them; promiſes everlaſting, and continued diſappointments: of this I have writ to the Earl of Dartmouth frequently. I muſt however, acknowledge, that ſome of the cauſes I have been ordered to ſolicit, were much upon the ſcrub. Gilligan has been ſo kind to Arthburnet, of Rouen, as to help him in the matter of commiſſions.

Arthburnet's * real zeal for her Majeſty's ſervice, and knowledge of mercantile affairs, are ſufficient arguments for your Lordſhip doing him your beſt offices, and honouring him with your favour. I took all the occaſions I could of ſpeaking (as indeed I ought to do) of Mr. Hare to the Duke of Shrewſbury, but (as I have already writ) I had no fixed anſwer: though I never heard it named, let me aſk you, my dear Lord, in confidence, will not Mr. Lewis † ſtand in Mr. Hare's way? For my part, if my fortune were fixed, I would follow the Duke of Shrewſbury *per freta per ſcopulos*.

* Probably this is Arbuthnot (brother to the phyſician) and commercial agent, at Rouen.

† Lewis had been long in the office of the Secretaries of State; he was Under-ſecretary to Harley and Lord Dartmouth—Hare came into office with Bolingbroke.

Poor Dick Shelton, dines ſometimes, I think, in York-Buildings; he has done ſo theſe three years, but cholique, ſpleen, and diſappointment, hinder people's digeſtion. Pray perſiſt in your good opinion of him, my Lord, for he really deſerves it from you. I have likewiſe engaged the Duke of Shrewſbury to put in a kind word in his behalf; for what, in God's name, do we tranſlate our odes, and write our little ſtuff, but to be able to do our friends ſome good? and why is a man, who may be uſeful to the public, and whoſe heart is with us, to lie fallow till either we have not the power to do him ſervice, or till he wants health to enjoy our friendly offices? I wiſh I had a word from Lord Treaſurer; but wiſhes are but vain, and ſighs cannot obtain, as Sir Car Scroop moſt elegantly expreſſes it. I expect your commands,

And am ever, my Lord, &c.

M. PRIOR.

I have your cargo now coming from Rouen, having ſent thither Monſieur Deſmarets's order for the freedom of the cuſtoms. How am I to diſtribute the particulars? the eau de Barbade (I think) for the ladies, and the honey-water for the men.

From Mr. Prior *.

Paris, September 1ſt-12th, 1713.

THIS is only to acknowledge the favour of yours of the 26th paſt, and to tell you, that I expect your future commands, as you were pleaſed to ſay I ſhould.

I am very glad to find by the Duke of Shrewſbury's letter, that he found all things as he could wiſh at Windſor; I would have him pleaſed, for he always is moſt ſo, with that which is beſt for the public; and you know how much he deſerves, better than I can tell you.

* Private.

As

As I have hinted to him, I cannot but ſay to you, that I found myſelf a good deal mortified, in the changes that have been lately made, particular in the 'Chequer, without one word of your friend Matt; and more becauſe a good deal has been writ in England, printed from Holland, and talked at this Court upon that ſubject. As to my own private affairs, conſidered as ſuch, paſs: I have (may be) more than I deſerve, though I have worked very hard here, and done my beſt; but as thoſe affairs relate to the ſervice, I think it better that I ſhould be recalled, before theſe people find I am neglected at home. This I write to my dear Lord Bolingbroke, and I believe, he will find the Duke of Shrewſbury in the ſame ſentiment.

Adieu, my Lord, all honour, ſatisfaction, and pleaſure, to you for ever, is the wiſh and prayer of the ſplenetic, but,

Yours, ever,

MATT.

Au Roi de Sicile *.

SIRE,

Du Château de Windſor, ce 7me Septembre, V.S. 1713.

LA juſtice que votre Majeſté veut bien faire aux ſentimens de mon cœur, & la manière gracieuſe, dont elle a la bonté de payer les petits ſervices, que j'ai été en état de lui rendre, au delà de tout ce qu'ils méritent, me pénètrent de reconnoiſſance, & me comblent de gloire. J'ai toujours admiré, avec le reſpect que je dois, ces grandes qualités qui attachent votre Majeſté à la Reine ma maîtreſſe, encore plus que les liens du ſang; & j'ai toujours cru que les ſecondes mar-

* Late Duke of Savoy.

ques

ques de mon zèle & de mon dévouement étoient dûes à votre Majeſté, c'eſt une maxime que je conſerverai toute ma vie, heureux ſi, en ſacrifiant cette vie même, je pourrois d'autant mieux faire paroître combien je ſuis ſoumis à ſes ordres, quelle haute vénération j'ai pour ſa perſonne ſacrée, & juſques où doit aller la reconnoiſſance d'un homme qui a eu le bonheur de mériter ſon approbation.

Je ſuis, avec l'attachement le plus parfait, & le reſpect le plus profond, Sire, de votre Majeſté le très humble, très fidelle, & très obeiſſant ſerviteur. B.

A Monſieur le Marquis de Trivié.

MONSIEUR,

Du Château de Windſor, ce 8me Septembre, V.S. 1713.

LES lettres de câchet de la Reine, pour le Roi & la Reine de Sicile, & pour Madame Royale, vous auront été rendues par celui de mes premiers commis, qui ſe trouve préſentement à Londres; & ſi vous ne les avez pas encore envoyées, vous ſerez à tems demain au matin; puiſque le paquet-bot eſt arrêté, par mon ordre, juſqu'à l'arrivée de mes dépêches pour la France, & pour l'Eſpagne, qui ne pourront être faites que demain. J'ai écrit au bureau, afin qu'on vous avertiſſe du départ de l'exprès.

Je viens de recevoir, par un courier du Roi Catholique, des lettres tant de la Princeſſe des Urſins que de l'Ambaſſadeur de la Reine. Les dernières ſont du 4me de ce mois, N.S. Elles ſont en réponſe à celles que j'avois écrit, ſur le premier bruit qui courût, de ce que la Cour d'Eſpagne avoit deſſein de faire par rapport à votre traité, avant même que le Comte de Maffei m'avoit parlé ſur le ſujet, peut-être avant qu'il en ſut la moindre choſe. Je vois que le ton ſur lequel j'avois

parlé, par ordre de la Reine, n'a pas manqué de produire ſon effet. Montéleon viendra inceſſamment ici pour faire des excuſes, & tâcher de contenter la Reine.

Permettez-moi de vous faire une inſinuation en paſſant : les intérêts de la Reine, & du Roi votre maître, ſeront toujours les mêmes par tout, à ce que j'eſpère, mais du côté de l'Eſpagne, ils ne peuvent pas ſe contredire ; ne ſera-t-il pas à propos que les Miniſtres de nos deux Cours à Madrid ſoient inſtruits de s'entendre ?

Excuſez, s'il vous plaît, une lettre mal écrite, & encore plus mal digérée, je n'ai pas le tems de la corriger.

Je ſuis, &c.

B.

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* *To Mr. Prior.*

Windſor Caſtle, September 8th, 1713.

I THANK you, friend Matthew, for your private letter of the 12th of this month, which I received this morning : the promiſe you ſpeak of, you find already, that I make good to the full, and I doubt you will think me a voluminous correſpondent.

It is the ſame ſatisfaction to me as to you, that the Duke of Shrewſbury found every thing here as he could wiſh ; I hope he will find every thing in Ireland ſo too. Certain it is, the ſweetneſs of his temper, the ſtrength of his underſtanding, and the happineſs of his addreſs, will enable him, better than any man I know, to calm the minds of that diſtracted nation, who, from knowing no diſtinction but Proteſtant and Papiſt, are come to be more madly divided about Whig and Tory, High Church and Low, than even this ſociety of lunatics to which you and I belong.

* Mem. In this place is omitted a letter to Prior, of September 8th, 1713. Bolingbroke.

I ſay nothing to you as to your private affairs; you can find in no man a more hearty ſolicitor than myſelf; you find in the Duke of Shrewſbury a more powerful one. What Lord Treaſurer deſigns for you, I know not; but I perceive the Duke thinks it will be to your entire ſatisfaction: that it may prove ſo, I wiſh from the bottom of my heart.

Your letter of the 5th, had almoſt ſlipped me; and I would not forget to acknowledge any one, ſince each deſerves all the acknowledgment I can make.

You are ſo taken up with modern ladies, that you forget old authors. It is our friend Tully, and not our friend Horace, who ſpeaks of things which he ſays *exprimere* (not *monſtrare*) *nequeo, & ſentio tantum.*

There is another paſſage which ſome part of your letter puts me in mind of; it is either in an epiſtle or ſatire of Horace:

> Ruſticus expectat num defluit amnis, at ille
> Labitur & labetur in omne volubilis ævum.

Some ſort of expectations reſemble a good deal to this of the country put.

Madame de Croiſſy, Madame de Torcy, and Madame de Noailles, are to ſhare the honey-water, ſack, and eau de Barbade; but I believe a larger proportion of the two laſt ſhould go to Monſieur de Torcy; but do as you pleaſe. I proteſt to you, I contributed to make the partition of Europe, without being ſo much at a loſs, as I ſhould be to make that of this cargo.—May Madame Feriole not have ſome?

Our friend Jonathan * is, I hear, returned from Ireland, where he has had no good health. You will join with me, in thinking he has done well to return, ſince I am ſure you will join with me, in thinking

* Swift, the new Dean of St. Patrick's.

that his health is of more value, than the good order of all the muſty chapters in any kingdom.

Adieu; I am, and ever will be, your's,

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Earl of Jerſey.

MY DEAR DOCTOR,

Windſor Caſtle, September 7th, 1713.

I AM your friend from the bottom of my heart, and therefore not only may, but ought to lay that heart open to your view, eſpecially in an affair of ſo great conſequence as the firſt ſtep which you take on the ſtage of buſineſs; I love you ſo well, that I would have you not only riſe in the world, but riſe in a manner ſuitable to thoſe qualities which you are maſter of; I would have you diſtinguiſhed in the ſetting-out, as I am ſure you will diſtinguiſh yourſelf in the progreſs, from the illiterate crew of fops, who diſgrace the names they wear: I would have you enter the Queen's ſervice, not becauſe you are related to, or intimate with, thoſe in power, but becauſe you are wanted in it; and therefore I own to you, that whenever I have mentioned you, I have done it on no other foot but this, that your talents were not to be loſt or unemployed, and that, in the midſt of this dearth of capacity, which is but too apparent among the nobility, the wiſeſt meaſure the Queen could purſue was, to call forth thoſe few who have genius, to the preſent and future ſervice of their country. On this foundation, therefore, all I ſaid to George * was built; and I could have thrown you into a ſcene, ſo difficult in appearance, and, at the ſame time, ſo eaſy to one of your capacity, with the helps which I

* Probably, Bolingbroke's brother.

would

would have entruſted to you, that you would have raiſed a reputation at once; but your private circumſtances are an unanſwerable objection, and I am now working to bring my ſcheme to them, ſince they will not come to it. You have your mortifications before you come to Court, and, believe me, you will have them when you are there.—You will ſee the fawning, tell-tale raſcal careſſed, and detraction from the merit of others made equivalent to real merit in himſelf;—you will ſee more a great deal, than I intend to enumerate; and what then? Muſt, therefore, a good man not come to Court, nor ſtep forward in the ſervice of his country?—Muſt he throw himſelf into retreat or oppoſition?—No, my dear Doctor; you ſhall do neither: you are too bright for the former, and too honeſt, if you knew all I could have the honour of telling you, for the latter. There ſeems to be no inclination to live well with you wanting; if I believed otherwiſe, I would be the firſt to tell you of it. We have not the beſt knack in the world, either at giving our employments, with a good grace, or ſuiting them well: this being a misfortune, which runs through the whole tenour of our conduct, you ought to make no particular application to yourſelf. Take my advice, and do not laugh at me for preſuming to give it you. Fight, dear Doctor, againſt your ſpleen; I know how faſt that fly enemy will creep into the body and mind of a man, and what curſed work he will make when he is there. You, who can read and think (which I have known very few people in my life that could, though every creature is ſaucy enough to pretend to do both) have it in your power to drive this fiend from you, and at the ſame time to prepare to break from your retreat with double luſtre; this will, I hope, ſoon be the caſe. I hope ſo, for many reaſons; and amongſt the reſt, which you will allow to be very natural, for my own ſake; there being nothing I ſhould be better pleaſed with, than being joined in the ſervice with one for whom I have all the ſenti-

ments

ments of a moſt affectionate kinſman, a moſt ſincere friend, and a moſt obedient ſervant.

Adieu, dear Doctor.

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.*

My Lord,

Windſor Caſtle, September 14th, 1713.

THE reſpect and friendſhip which I have for your Lordſhip, will not allow me to let this expreſs go, without carrying you my compliments. When the Queen commanded me to enter on the province which the Earl of Dartmouth had ſerved in, I reflected with pleaſure that I ſhould have to do with Ireland, and conſequently with your Lordſhip; and ſince the courſe of buſineſs has brought me nearer to you, I hope, my Lord, that you will, without any ceremony, lay your commands on me, whenever you judge I can be of uſe either to your Lordſhip or the public. Whenever you think fit to do me this honour, your Lordſhip will find that among other ties which attach me to your ſervice, I am bound by that which was formerly looked on as the ſtrongeſt of all—*eadem ſentire de republica.* As you will hear from my Lord Chamberlain himſelf, that her Majeſty was pleaſed laſt night to declare his Grace, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, I ſhall only ſay upon that head, that I am very much deceived, if any man has a greater ſenſe of your Lordſhip's merit, or a more earneſt deſire to live in the moſt intimate correſpondence with you, than his Grace carries over with him.

I am, &c.

B. †

* Sir Conſtantine Phipps.

† Mem. In this place is omitted a letter to Duke d'Aumont, of September 15th. Bolingbroke.

A Madame

A Madame la Princeſſe des Urſins.

MADAME,

Du Château de Windſor, ce 16me Septembre, 1713.

JE me donne l'honneur de répondre aux deux lettres, que votre Alteſſe a bien voulu m'écrire du 2me & du 27me du mois paſſé, N.S. & je dois lui avouer ingénuement, que je me ſens fort embarraſſé lorſqu'il s'agit d'exprimer la joie & la reconnoiſſance dont j'ai été pénétré en les liſant. Les maximes ſur leſquelles votre Alteſſe règle & ſon raiſonnement & ſa conduite, ſont les ſeules véritables, &, j'oſe dire, les ſeules qui puiſſent diſſiper les obſtacles qui ſubſiſtent encore à la concluſion de la paix générale.

En ſuivant les principes ſur leſquels toutes nos négociations ont été juſques à préſent appuyées, nous parviendrons immanquablement à notre grand but. En formant de nouveaux projets, qui dérangent le vieux ſyſtême, nous nous expoſons à renverſer le tout. Si l'on trouve que la Reine inſiſte ſur certains points, plus qu'il ne convient aux intérêts de ſa Majeſté Catholique, ayez, Madame, la bonté de réfléchir, & de faire réfléchir aux autres, dans quelle ſituation étoient les affaires de l'Europe lorſque la Reine a pris les engagemens, en vertu deſquels ſa Majeſté ſe trouve préſentement obligée de parler & d'agir; combien les engagemens, dont je parle, étoient néceſſaires pour diſpoſer des eſprits irrités par une longue guerre, & énflés par pluſieurs ſuccès, à des ſentimens pacifiques; & quelle peu de comparaiſon il y a entre le rétabliſſement du repos publique, & le plus ou le moins qui reſte à être réglé.

Monſieur de Lexington informera votre Alteſſe que le ſentiment de la Reine à été contre le voyage du Marquis de Montéleon. Sa Majeſté auroit vu, avec grand plaiſir, revenir auprès d'elle un Miniſtre qu'elle

eſtime

eſtime beaucoup, & qui a eu le bonhour de mériter ſa confiance : mais quand elle a fait réflexion ſur les jalouſies, qu'un tel voyage, dans la criſe préſente, pourroit cauſer, elle a cru devoir préférer les intérêts de ſa Majeſté Catholique à ſa proper ſatisfaction.

La Reine, Madame, m'a chargé de renouveller à votre Alteſſe les aſſurances, qu'elle ſoutiendra ſes prétenſions à l'avenir comme elle a fait par le paſſé ; & qu'elle veut regarder votre Alteſſe comme un de ces liens, qui doivent cimenter cette étroite union, qu'elle ſouhaite d'entretenir, pendant toute ſa vie, avec leurs Majeſtés Catholiques.

La complaiſance que le Roi veut bien avoir pour la Reine, dans l'affaire du Prince de la Ricchia, touche ſa Majeſté très ſenſiblement ; plus ce ſujet a été coupable, plus ſont-elles grandes la clémence du Roi & l'obligation de la Reine.

Votre Alteſſe me permettra, avant que de finir cette lettre, de lui marquer le plaiſir très ſenſible que j'ai, en liſant tout ce qu'elle a eu la bonté de m'écrire ſur le ſujet du Comte de Montijo.

Comme le mariage eſt peut-être la plus importante action de la vie de l'homme, mon ami ne pouvoit mieux faire que de remettre à votre Alteſſe le choix de ſa femme ; c'eſt une nouvelle preuve qu'il donne de ſon bon eſprit & une nouvelle raiſon pour augmenter, s'il eſt poſſible, l'eſtime & la tendreſſe, que j'ai conçu pour lui, pendant le ſéjour qu'il fit dans ce pays. Au reſte, je dois demander pardon à votre Alteſſe de la longueur de ma lettre, & la ſupplier d'être perſuadée qu'on ne peut être avec un plus profond reſpect, Madame, de votre Alteſſe le très humble, &c.

B.

Je ne dois pas oublier de rendre à votre Alteſſe mes très humbles remercîmens de toutes les bontés qu'elle a pour Monſieur le Comte de Lecheraine.

To Mr. Prior.

September 15th, 1713.

ALLOW me to add ſomething in private to my public diſpatch. I promiſe you that, contrary to cuſtom, my comment ſhall be much ſhorter than the text. I think then, that Monſieur de Torcy might be made to feel, how greatly they will ſtrengthen our hands, and ſtun that rampant faction, which plagues both us and them, if, when Holland attempts ſo apparently to diſtreſs us, in a moſt material article of our trade, France ſteps in to our relief.

The time of obtaining the propriety and ſovereignty of Dunkirk, without ſuch equivalents as the Queen cannot give, is, I fear, loſt; but I fancy, the King might, for the preſent, agree to leave this place undemoliſhed in the Queen's hands, till the trade of the Spaniſh Netherlands is ſettled, to the ſatisfaction of Great Britain and France; and particularly till her Majeſty's demands, relating to Oſtend, are granted.

A particular convention may be made to this effect, and the ſtipulation for the demolition may be renewed in the ſtrongeſt terms. This would anſwer our end, and I do not perceive that the French have any thing to fear. Dunkirk was given up as a pledge, under the terms of a ſolemn treaty, for another purpoſe. There will be a better ſecurity for it than there was at firſt, and as good an one as there is now, and the delay of this demolition can be of no prejudice to the King, who receives the revenue, uſes the harbour, and procures to his ſubjects the advantage of this intermediate time, for carrying on their commerce, and for taking their meaſures to remove, with leſs loſs, whenever the place ſhall be demoliſhed. I have no orders to mention this to you, but my notion is, that he who is moſt fully inſtructed, is moſt likely to ſucceed. You will not ſtart any ſuch notion, but you will judge by this

land-mark, how much farther, than we expect, the French are likely to go, or how much ſhort they will fall of what we deſire.

The ſubſtance of what is writ in my other letter, I opened to the Duke d'Aumont, but I doubt his Grace will not make it very intelligible to his court.

Gaultier has teaſed me to death, to write a letter to Monſieur Pontchartrain, about releaſing a Britiſh ſhip taken during the ſuſpenſion. I ſuſpect the good Abbot ſtock-jobs his miniſtry, and beſides I do not care to aſk a favour of a Miniſter of another Court, eſpecially of ſuch an one as Pontchartrain. However, having played the fool, and writ the letter, I deſire, if you ſee too much ſtreſs laid upon it, and the obligation to me overrated, that you would take an opportunity to drop, that I writ for no reaſon, but becauſe the Duke d'Aumont told me he did, and becauſe Gaultier intereſted himſelf for the people concerned.

Adieu, my good friend, I am what I ever will be, your ſincere and moſt obedient,

BOLINGBROKE.

A Monſieur le Comte de Montijo.

Du Château de Windſor, ce 16me Septembre, 1713.

JE réponds, mon cher Comte, à vos lettres du 23me d'Août & du 4me Septembre, pour leſquelles je me ſens obligé au delà de toute expreſſion. A force de vous eſtimer & de vous aimer, vos intérêts deviennent les miens. Je prends la même part à votre élévation, que je prendrois au mien propre, & je vous jure, que même dans la diſgrace, ſi elle devenoit mon ſort, votre bonheur me conſoleroit. Aimez-moi donc toujours, car en vérité je le mérite de vous. Je vous ſuis bien obligé

ligé de la politeſſe, que vous avez montré au Comte de Lecheraine, c'eſt un officier de beaucoup de diſtinction, & mon vieux camarade.

Que vous me flattez agréablement, mon cher enfant, quand vous me donnez la douce eſpérance de vous revoir un jour! Mon cœur me dit que cela arrivera. Madame la Princeſſe des Urſins m'écrit pourtant, que vous voulez qu'elle vous donne une femme, & après le mariage, vous n'avez pas la mine de vouloir courir le monde. Enfin ſi vous ne venez point en la Grande Bretagne, j'irai en Eſpagne vous embraſſer.

Tous vos amis dans ce pays vous aiment, & vous regrettent également. Wyndham eſt elévé à la charge de Chancelier des Finances. Et je crois que vous pourrez bien voir un homme, que vous avez connu & gouté, ſi je ne me trompe, ſuccéder à Lexington.

Adieu, mon chère Comte,

Je ſuis, &c.

B.

A Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont.

Du Château de Windſor, ce 15me Septembre, 1713.

VOUS recevrez avec cette lettre la réponſe que la Reine m'a ordonné de faire, au mémoire que vous m'avez, en dernier lieu, remis. J'écris à Prior ſur le ſujet, dont j'ai eu l'honneur de vous entretenir, Dimanche, par le courier qui part demain. Les réponſes aux lettres que j'ai écrit touchant les vaiſſeaux, que vous reclamez, me ſeront rendu dans un jour ou deux. Je ne manquerai pas de vous les communiquer d'abord. Je vous envoie l'extrait, que vous ſouhaitez d'avoir, de la lettre que la Princeſſe des Urſins m'écrit ſur le ſujet du Prince de la Ricchia. Votre étoffe vous ſera infailliblement rendu, & le Chévalier Wyndham ſe fera un plaiſir d'être util au nommé James, quand il reviendra de ſon élection. Je paſſe préſentement aſſez mal mon tems;

j'eſpère me dédommager pendant les quatre jours, que je dois paſſer avec vous.

Adieu, mon cher Duc, je ſuis, & je ſerai toujours, avec un attachement parfaite, votre, &c.

B.

To the Earl of Orrery.

My Lord,

Windſor Caſtle, September, 18th, 1713.

IN expectation of going this week to London, I neglected to write ſooner to your Lordſhip, but finding that my attendance on the Queen will confine me ſome days longer, I give you the trouble of a letter.

The ſervice your Lordſhip ſeemed to expect from me, was to be truly informed upon what foot you ſtand with my Lord Treaſurer, and I have done my beſt to be able with certainty to tell you.

I think then, that beſides the ſentiments, which old acquaintance muſt inſpire, my Lord Treaſurer has a very juſt regard for your Lordſhip, as a man who acts on a principle, whoſe conduct will be ſteady, and who is therefore to be depended on; I think he is contriving to advance your Lordſhip to another poſt in the Queen's ſervice, and my opinion is, that you would purſue a wrong meaſure, if you either aſked to retire, out of diſguſt, or engaged in any ſeparate ſcheme.

This is my opinion honeſtly; did I judge otherwiſe, I would with the very ſame frankneſs ſpeak otherwiſe to you.

If your Lordſhip imagines the delay of doing any thing for you, or that coldneſs and neglect, which I remember you once complained of to me, is not agreeable to what I have the honour to write to you, I

can

can only ſay, that appearances are not eaſily to be truſted, either when they flatter or when they diſpleaſe.

When I have the happineſs of ſeeing your Lordſhip, I will explain myſelf farther than I can by letter; in the mean while, you will pleaſe to be perſuaded, that I am, with very ſincere friendſhip, my Lord.

Your Lordſhip's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Mr. Secretary Bromley *.

SIR,

Windſor Caſtle, September 18th, 1713.

I HAVE the honour of your letter, of the 17th paſt, and have ſpoke to the Queen on the contents of it.

The firſt obſervation is ſo far right, that the Plenipotentiaries have jointly and ſeparately the ſame power, and therefore, without diſpute, the Biſhop or the Earl might, by virtue of the commiſſion which now ſubſiſts, ſign alone; but this will not ſolve the knot, for when the treaty of commerce with Spain comes to be ſigned, the full powers muſt be entered, at the end thereof, according to form, and in them the precedency, which Strafford will not ſubmit to, is determined. The Queen therefore, thinks the firſt deſign in this reſpect, ſhould be purſued.

The other difficulty appears to her Majeſty greater; if by confirmation, my Lord Chancellor means the royal aſſent, that has been ſigned; but, if the Queen cannot call the Biſhop of London by that name, or he ſign by it, till he has done homage, or been in her Majeſty's preſence, then indeed there is a difficulty, both as to the full powers and as to the revocation. In ſhort, if the Queen can with any propriety, ſtyle

* Member of Parliament for the Univerſity of Oxford, and had been Speaker of the Houſe of Commons.

him

him Biſhop of London, ſhe would do ſo, both in a new diſtinct commiſſion, and in letters of revocation. But if ſhe cannot, upon which the Queen deſires you would again conſult Lord Chancellor, then her Majeſty would have a new commiſſion ſent to Lord Strafford only, and letters of revocation only to the Biſhop, in ſuch form as can be uſed.

I can eaſily believe Lord Marlborough as fond as ever of the Vicar-Generalſhip, but I hardly think he will venture to take a government * upon him, in oppoſition to a treaty wherein the Queen is a party, and that would be the caſe, if he took a commiſſion from the Emperor, before the time when, by the barrier, the Ten Provinces are deemed to belong to that Prince.

I ſend the meſſenger in haſte away, that you may have as early notice as poſſible, of her Majeſty's ſenſe, in the matter above-mentioned.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Sir John Jennings †.

SIR,

Windſor Caſtle, September 18th, 1713.

YOU will find, by my public diſpatch, that you have the Queen's leave to come home by land, if you think fit, as ſoon as the buſineſs of Sicily is over.

When you formally writ to me on this head, and ſome other matters, wherein you deſired my aſſiſtance, I was not negligent to ſerve you, as far as my power and my ſituation at that time, when the ſouthern province was under the Earl of Dartmouth, would allow.

* Of the Spaniſh Provinces ceded to the Emperor, but this was probably nothing more than the news of the day.

† Commander-in-chief of the naval forces in the Mediterranean.

I likewiſe did myſelf the honour to anſwer your letters, but finding no mention thereof in yours, I conclude mine were loſt.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Mr. Worſley *.

SIR,

Windſor Caſtle, September 19th, 1713.

I SHOULD have returned an anſwer to your letter of the 12th, before now, had I not expected to have been this week in town.

For my own part, nobody can be more ſenſible than I am of the zeal with which you have hitherto, very unprofitably to yourſelf, ſerved the Queen; and I can very truly ſay, that I have done you juſtice, both to her Majeſty and to thoſe who have the honour to be employed by her.

I ſhould have had too much regard for your fortune and intereſt, to have named you for the Court of Liſbon, or any other foreign Court, if the Queen's Miniſters abroad, were to continue in the ſame neglected condition, as they have of late years been; but the Queen's not being able to diſcharge that vaſt incumbrance of debt, which loaded the civil liſt, has, on the head of foreign Miniſters, as well as other heads, reduced her expence to a certain ſum, and that ſuch an one, as ſhe can and will punctually pay, ſo that you may depend upon the appointments of Envoy-extraordinary regularly, which is infinitely better than thoſe of Ambaſſador-extraordinary, in the uſual method of payment.

Delaval had indeed a warrant for Plenipotentiary's pay, under pretence of treating with the Moors; but as he did not the ſervice, ſo he neither has received, nor will be allowed to receive, the ſalary for it.

* Britiſh Miniſter appointed for Liſbon.

You

You will pleaſe to prepare for your new ſcene; and when I come next week to town, I will begin to ſettle my part of your neceſſary diſpatches.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, September 20th, 1713.

THE Committee of Council ſate till three to-day, and went through the examination of the whole ſtate of the Northern affairs; on which Mr. Secretary Bromley will have the honour to report to your Majeſty next Sunday.

The few things which relate to my province, and were to-day diſpatched, are minuted for your Majeſty's orders. To-morrow, my Lords take under conſideration the ſtate of Minorca, and the memorial of buſineſs depending with the Court of Spain; the difficulty whereof is, I hope, entirely ſubdued, by the orders which your Majeſty was pleaſed, ſome time ago, to give me.

I ſhall not be able to attend your Majeſty, becauſe of this ſecond Committee, till Saturday.

I humbly preſume your Majeſty would have the Cabinet, as uſual, on Sunday.

Lord Bingley, will, I perceive, be ready to go to Spain, if your Majeſty thinks fit to command him. I have ſent for Colonel Worſley, who will, I ſuppoſe, be the ſame to go to Portugal.

My Lord Treaſurer humbly propoſes to fill up the blanks in the commiſſion of trade with Mr. Sharp, Sir William Withers, and Mr. Pitts;

if your Majeſty approves of theſe perſons, I can fill up the warrant accordingly, and the bill is ſent down for the royal ſignature.

The elections require more haſte than ordinary, that of Mr. Pitts being for a county, and coming on next week.

My Lord Mar having received the ſeals from your Majeſty, I ſhall bring down a draught of his conſtitution for your Majeſty's approbation.

The pitching on perſons proper to be preſented to your Majeſty, as commiſſaries to treat on commerce with thoſe of France, proves harder than we apprehended. I have writ to the Attorney, to know whether ſuch as are elected to Parliament, may be named; if they may, it will facilitate your Majeſty's choice, and the ſervice. Mr. Cadagon ſent to me laſt night, and was with me this morning. He arrived on Tueſday; he ſays, his only buſineſs is to take care of his election, and of his fortune on this ſide the water. He affects to ſay, that Lord Marlborough has no thought of coming over, but will continue this winter at Antwerp, Breda, or Liege, as her Grace can beſt pleaſe herſelf. I find, he intends to aſk the Duke of Ormond, to preſent him to your Majeſty.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Windſor Caſtle, September 23rd, 1713.

I PURPOSELY delayed writing to you, till the Queen had taken her final reſolution on a matter, which ſince you lay it ſo much to heart, I had much rather the Queen's opinion ſhould decide, than mine.

Mr. Secretary Bromley ſends, I ſuppoſe, by this poſt, both to your Lordſhip and my Lord Biſhop, an account of the method which her

Majeſty preſcribes for your future proceeding. You will ripen the projects of our treaty of commerce with Spain; and when it comes to be ſigned, there being but one upon the ſpot, no diſpute can ariſe concerning precedency, nor no room be left for complaint.

After this, I might think myſelf diſcharged from ſaying a word more, on a ſubject which I had no hand in creating; but as your Lordſhip is pleaſed to addreſs yourſelf to me, in ſome ſort to appeal to me, and complain of me, I ſhall ſpeak my mind, very ſhortly, very plainly, and I hope very reaſonably, at leaſt as well as my poor capacity enables me to judge.

In the firſt place then, my Lord, I wiſh nothing had been done, to give a pretence for altering the courſe of things, or diſturbing thoſe negociations, on the event whereof ſo much depends, and which are brought ſo near a concluſion; nay, I am perſuaded, nothing would have been done, could the diſputes, which have ariſen, have been foreſeen. But, my Lord, what has been done? The man who ſtands firſt in that commiſſion, by which alone your Lordſhip has any power to act as a Plenipotentiary in the affairs of peace, has changed his name. Originally, the Biſhop was named firſt, becauſe he was at that time Privy Seal. He is ſo no longer, it is true; but till that commiſſion is ſuperſeded by another, he is firſt Plenipotentiary, and the act of precedency has no more to do, in this caſe, than the Land Tax Bill. I could therefore wiſh, as your Lordſhip's real friend and ſervant, that you had taken this affair up with leſs warmth; there would have been time enough, before you come to ſign any inſtrument jointly, to diſcuſs and determine a point, wherein you thought your honour concerned, and wherein the Queen did not ſeem aware of any diſpute. I believe her Majeſty is perſuaded that ſhe ſuffers more than any one elſe, if in ſo critical a conjuncture, among people ſo ready to take hold, and to make their advantage of the leaſt diviſion of her ſervants, or diſturbance in her affairs, a diſpute breaks forth between thoſe who are at the head of her buſineſs.

It is neceſſary in anſwer to your Lordſhip's letters, that I ſhould ſay ſomething of myſelf, and I ſhall do ſo, with that truth which, one time or other, your Lordſhip will be ſenſible of.

I have uſed my beſt endeavours to ſerve your Lordſhip, ever ſince it was in my power, and theſe endeavours have not been unſucceſsful. Had I been as intent on my own intereſt as I have been in promoting the good of the ſervice, and of my friends, things had not been at preſent juſt in the poſture that they are. But, my Lord, I can be content to retire a ſecond time, whenever my friends grow tired of me, or the Queen's ſervice requires it; in the ſame manner as I have done once already, with no other éclat than a reputation earned by hard labour, and with no other profit than the reward of a good conſcience.

As to my brother, my Lord, what he is not able to treat, he ſhall never have my conſent to ſign; and as long as I ſerve, he ſhall riſe no faſter than he deſerves to riſe.

I write to your Lordſhip, what a very cordial friendſhip dictates, and am not conſcious of having judged in your caſe, otherwiſe than I ſhould have done in my own; ſo that I may be miſtaken in my opinion, but cannot err in point of ſincerity, of which I pray your Lordſhip to be convinced, and to believe me, with great truth, yours, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Biſhop of London.

MY LORD,

Windſor Caſtle, September 23rd, 1713.

MR. Secretary Bromley writing to you, by the Queen's particular command, and ſending your letters of revocation at the ſame time, little is left for me to ſay. There had been thought of drawing new and diſtinct full powers, but it ſeems, her Majeſty was at laſt pleaſed to determine,

mine, that although, one only was to ſign, yet there was no need of a new power.

As it is not in the world enough to create a good opinion, that a man means and acts ſincerely, ſo I think myſelf obliged to return your Lordſhip my thanks, for the favourable one you are pleaſed to entertain of me, and I aſſure your Lordſhip you ſhall on no occaſion, have reaſon to repent of the juſtice you do me.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, September 24th, 1713.

THE Committee of Council is this moment riſen, and have gone through ſome part of the buſineſs before them; the remainder, I hope, they will be able to finiſh to-morrow, when they have appointed to ſit again.

I received an expreſs this morning from Mr. Prior. He ſends me a full and ſatisfactory anſwer to what I had writ, on the receipt of the Duke d'Aumont's memorial concerning Placentia, together with an new order for the ſurrendry of this place, ſigned by the King, and directed to the officer commanding in it. The King never thought of aſking leave for his ſubjects to fiſh on Newfoundland another year, it was a project of Monſieur de Pontchartrain's, who has done himſelf no good by it; all the King aſks, is, that his ſubjects may have leave to continue on the iſland, not in the fort, till the ſeaſon of the year permits them to remove. All this being in conſequence of your Majeſty's former orders, I have already got the Lords of the Admiralty to provide a veſſel to carry my diſpatches to Colonel Moody, and will

ſend them, with duplicates of my former, away to Morris. Thus will this neceſſary part of your Majeſty's ſervice be provided for.

I have letters from Lord Lexington, of the 11th of this month, N.S. which bring little, except that the Spaniards make thoſe difficulties about ſupplying Gibraltar, on the foreſight of which, his Lordſhip is, by this time, inſtructed, the letters which I writ by your Majeſty's order, having been ſent more than a fortnight ago.

He is likewiſe engaged in ſome diſpute about the former of his credential letters, which I cannot have the honour of ſtating to your Majeſty, till I have examined the office-books.

The draught of the treaty of commerce with Spain, will be ready for the Lords of the Council to-morrow, and for your Majeſty on Sunday, when I humbly peſume, you would have the Cabinet ſit, as uſual.

The bills are not yet come from Ireland, but I have ſent for the Attorney to attend to-morrow, ſo that all the forms ſhall be prepared againſt their arrival.

My Lord Treaſurer has not yet ſaid any thing to me about Mr. Churchill. I ſhall be careful to obey your Majeſty's commands on this head.

I am extracting the clauſes which relate to the power of giving commiſſions, as well out of the Duke of Shrewſbury's patent, as out of former patents, and out of the ſeveral commiſſions granted to your Majeſty's General. I will bring the whole down with me, for your Majeſty's information.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From

From Mr. Prior *.

Fontainbleau, September 30th, 1713.

I HAVE anſwered your letter of buſineſs, and obeyed your directions, in the manner which I hope will be ſatisfactory. I believe you think the troops ſtaying, will rather be of advantage to us, than otherwiſe: we ſhall be in poſſeſſion, her Majeſty's ſtandard erected, the power in her ſubjects' hands, and the French to ſpend their money there, if they have any: the King ſaid upon this occaſion, he thought his people and ours may live quietly and friends there, as well as at Dunkirk: Torcy has been very fair and honeſt in all this buſineſs, ſo has the King, really. Pontchartrain is out of countenance, he endeavoured to find my memorial too haughty; it is as civil, as your orders gave me leave to pen it, and in another phraſe, at leaſt, than the Duke d'Aumont's; paſs for that, I hope I have done the thing right, and no matter for cenſure or applauſe.

Sure you have very little to do, ſince I find you have time to criticiſe my quotations; you are a better ſcholar than I, who denies? but I am better than Pontchartrain, which is ſtill ſome comfort.

Your cargo remains yet at Paris, untouched; we go thither on Tueſday or Wedneſday ſe'nnight: I ſhall make the diſtribution to your ſatisfaction, as I will always do every thing I can. In the mean time, all the parties *intéreſſés* know it is arrived.

As to my own affairs, I am very ſenſibly obliged to you, my Lord, for your kind concern, but a little aſhamed they have given you ſo much trouble; however, you muſt continue, as I ſee the Duke of Shrewſbury (to whom I am infinitely beholding) does; he writes me word, that Lord Treaſure told him, he had ſomething *in petto* for me,

* Private.

that

that would make an end of all my complainings. He told him what it was, but his Grace has not named it to me; your Lordſhip will uſe this hint as your great goodneſs to me may prompt. If it were ſettled before the Duke goes to Ireland, it would be, and look, better. Adieu, my dear Lord, all health, honour, and happineſs to you.

Your's, ever,

MATT.

Barton bringing you the letters, I ſpare you the trouble of decyphering, taking it for granted, that he will never part from any packet directed to Lord Bolingbroke, to man, woman, or child, as he expreſſes it, who has not firſt knockt out his brains. Pray, my Lord, ſend him back to me, and help him to ſome of his arrears; for he is very ſober and uſeful, and in a blue coat trimmed with gold, a hat as large as a hive, and the Queen's arms upon his breaſt, he makes as good a figure, at the death of a ſtag, as any one man, and hollows louder than any four. Adieu, my dear Lord Bolingbroke, nobody knows your worth, and values your friendſhip, more than I.

To Mr. Prior.

DEAR MR. MATTHEW,

Whitehall, September 25th, 1713.

I AM to let you know, that the Queen does not intend your Excellency ſhould continue much longer in France, and my Lord Treaſurer will take better care of you, and therefore, that her Majeſty thinks herſelf obliged no longer to defer naming ſomebody to go to that Court with a character.

Mr.

Mr Roſs * is declared Envoy-extraordinary, and will be ready to go over when you ſhall be ordered to return. He is to continue till an Ambaſſador is ſent, and to tell you the truth, we ſhall be glad not to be put to the difficulty, at laſt, of finding an Ambaſſador.

You will give this the beſt turn in diſcourſe.

Your facetious epiſtle of the 30th, ſhall be anſwered by the Iriſh favourite.

Adieu, ever yours,

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Earl of Mar.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, September 25th, 1713.

THE Queen has done Mr. Roſs the honour to name him to be her Envoy-extraordinary to the Court of France, the conſequence whereof is, that he can be maſter of very little of his time. I hope, therefore, his intereſt in his country, nor his election †, will not ſuffer by his long ſtay here, by the ſhort ſtay he muſt be obliged to make in the North, and, I wiſh I might add, by his going no farther than Edinburgh.

I know I need not recommend him to your Lordſhip's favour, nor inſinuate to you, that it would have an ill air, if his being advanced in the Queen's ſervice, ſhould not rather ſecure than hazard his election.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

* General Charles Roſs; he was, with others, diſmiſſed the ſervice by George I.
† For the county of Roſs.

To

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, September 29th, 1713.

IT is now almoſt four, and the Lords of the Council are but juſt riſen; they have gone through half the Spaniſh treaty of commerce, and have heard the Commiſſioners of trade to ſeveral points. To-morrow, at eleven, we ſhall meet again, and, I hope, be able to finiſh our work, though it be extremely tedious, by two, at which hour Mr. Attorney-General * and Mr. Solicitor-General †, together with the Attorney-General of Ireland, are ſummoned to attend, in order to refer the Iriſh Bills, which are this moment arrived. My Lord Preſident will take care to ſummon the Great Council, purſuant to your Majeſty's commands, for Thurſday morning.

The Biſhop of Rocheſter ‡ came to my office, to let me know that the Archbiſhop § has, at laſt, thought fit to ſend his mandates to the Biſhop of Wincheſter ||, and that they will be this night or to-morrow morning with him. I ſhall, therefore, not go to Lambeth, according to your Majeſty's firſt orders.

I found my Lord Treaſurer better than I expected. His Lordſhip has received a letter from the Earl of Mar, by which he finds that your Majeſty's name has been uſed in the recommendation of Lord Ilay ¶. This proceeding is, perhaps, ſo extraordinary, as to deſerve to have ſomething done upon it. I think it is ſaid, that, even in the Duke of Argyle's letters, your Majeſty's name is employed.

* Sir Edward Northey.

† Sir Robert Raymond: Puiſne Juſtice of the Court of King's Bench, 1723; Chief Juſtice, 1724; created Baron Raymond, 1731.

‡ Dr. Francis Atterbury; deprived and baniſhed in 1726, and died abroad in 1732.

§ Dr. Thomas Tenniſon.

|| Dr. Charles Trimnell.

¶ In the election of the ſixteen Peers. The Duke of Argyle, and his brother, the Earl of Ilay, ſided againſt Miniſtry, and moved the repeal of the Act of Union, in the laſt ſeſſion of Parliament.

I gave my Lord Treaſurer the advertiſement which your Majeſty commanded me to give, concerning the explanation his Lordſhip muſt make, when he pays the hundred pounds to the Counteſs of Caſſells, of your Majeſty's intending this ſum to be the advance of half a year, and not of a quarter.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Fontainbleau, le 11me Septembre, 1713.

C'EST moins à vous, my Lord, que je dois faire complimens que je ne me le fais à moi-même, ſur le changement de votre départment. Je compte d'y gagner beaucoup, & je crois auſſi que vous ne ſerez pas fâché d'avoir déſormais des relations plus immédiates & plus fréquents avec un pays, où vous êtes aimé & honoré autant que vous l'êtes en France. Je ſouhaite d'avoir bientôt d'autres complimens à vous faire, & quels que ſoient les récompenſes que votre mérite & vos ſervices vous attireront; j'oſe vous aſſurer, my Lord, que perſonne n'y ſera plus ſenſible que je le ſerai, m'intéreſſant auſſi vivement à tout ce que vous regarde, que je ſuis, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

Du Château de Windſor, ce 29me Septembre, V.S. 1713.

AYANT acquis, par les promotions, qu'il a plu à la Reine de faire depuis peu, le droit de choiſir tel des deux départemens que je voudrois, vous jugerez bien, Monſieur, que je n'ai pas héſité un moment

ment à me déclarer pour celui dans laquelle la France ſe trouve; parmi une infinité d'autres raiſons, la ſeule conſidération, que j'aurois par-là des occaſions plus fréquentes de vous faire ſouvenir de moi, étoit capable de m'y déterminer. Croyez, Monſieur, s'il vous plaît, que je vous parle ſans affectation & ſans flatterie, quand je vous aſſure, qu'il n'y a rien que je deſire plus ardemment que la continuation de votre amitié; elle me tiendra lieu de toutes les récompenſes que vous me ſouhaitez; c'eſt un bien qui ne ſe donne qu'à ceux qui ont quelque mérite, au lieu que les récompenſes deviennent très ſouvent le partage de ceux qui n'en ont pas le moindre: ſi donc elles me cherchent, je ne ſuis pas aſſez détaché du monde pour les rebuter; & en cas qu'elles ne me cherchent pas, je ſuis aſſez philoſophe, aſſez digne de votre amitié, pour m'en conſoler. Ayez, je vous en conjure, aſſez bonne opinion de moi pour être perſuadé de cette vérité, auſſi-bien que de l'attachement avec laquelle je veux être toute ma vie, &c.

B.

Sur ce qu'on m'a dit, de votre part, je propoſerai à la Reine de faire partir Monſieur le Comte de Scarſdale, qu'elle a nommé, il y a quelques mois, pour être ſon Envoyé-extraordinaire à Vienne. Sa Majeſté ayant le deſſein de récompenſer ici les bons ſervices que votre ami Matthieu, lui a rendu, le rappellera pour cet effet en très peu de tems. Son ſucceſſeur ſera Monſieur Roſs, homme de qualité, & fort attaché à vos ſerviteurs: il eſt Lieutenant-général de ſes armées, & Colonel-général de ſes dragons. Je devois ajouter, que ce n'eſt qu'en attendant qu'elle nomme un Ambaſſadeur.

To Mr. Prior.

Whitehall, September 29th, 1713.

I THOUGHT I ſhould have ſent you by this courier, a letter from my Lord Treaſurer, but having juſt now given him notice that Barton is going, I gueſs by his anſwer, that he cannot at this time write.

It is with great pleaſure I hear, that he has at laſt fixed the manner of rewarding your ſervices; and I aſſure you, with great ſincerity, that no mortification of my own, would be proof againſt the ſatisfaction of ſeeing this perfected. I mention your being recalled, and the nomination of Mr. Roſs, in a poſtſcript of my letter, to Monſieur de Torcy, which I deſire you to deliver to him; and at the ſame time, to thank him for a paragraph in his laſt letter to the fat Abbot, wherein he promiſes to ſit for his picture, the firſt time he goes to Paris. Aſſure him, dear Matt, that I will place it among the Jennys and the Mollys, and that I will prefer it to all of them. As learned as I ſhowed myſelf, in my criticiſm on your quotation, I promiſe you, I have not much leiſure. I go in the ſame tract where you left me, drudging on with much pains, and I believe with little thanks, but however, ſomewhat more agreeable than before I came into this province. For God's ſake, Matthew, ſay half a ſcore pretty things to Madame de Torcy, and Madame de Noailles, and father them upon me. I have really in my time done as much, for ſeveral friends that ſhall be nameleſs.

I cannot anſwer that Barton has got any money, and I am ſurprized to hear that you expect he ſhould.

Will you allow me to add to all this rambling ſtuff, a few grave words? Surely the French cannot be ſo weak as to forget the principle already, whereon they appeared to act, during all our late negociation; if they have not forgot it, there can be no difficulty in cloſing with the

the overtures which you have made them, concerning Dunkirk, before now. By this meaſure, moſt certain it is, they run no riſk, ſince, beſides the faith of the moſt ſolemn ſtipulations to ſecure the demolition, no man who is not mad himſelf, can believe us mad enough to entertain a thought of keeping Dunkirk in our hands by force, in oppoſition to France, to Holland, nay, and even to Britain too, or at leaſt a part thereof. But let Monſieur de Torcy turn in his clear head, what an effect it will have, if France ſteps in to our relief, when we are grieved by the Dutch, and that too in an article where our commerce uſes to circulate more than 1200l. *per annum**; would not this give ſtrength to our hands, and weaken thoſe of the adverſary? would it not furniſh materials for a fine paragraph in the next ſpeech from the throne? would it not raiſe a ſpirit to ſmooth our difficulties about trade, and make all troubleſome ferments ſubſide?

In good earneſt, friend Prior, they know little of our affairs on your ſide, if they neglect this opportunity. I own to you, with that frankneſs which becomes our intimacy, that when I propoſed to her Majeſty, to make the propoſitions, which you are acquainted with, about Oſtend, I had in my view two points principally: the firſt was, to give the French this occaſion of being popular here, and the ſecond was to create a reaſon for having delayed the demolition of Dunkirk, without any. Monſieur d'Aumont prepares for his return. I think we have done the honours of our court to him; at leaſt, I have endeavoured to do my part of them.

Audiſti conſilii mei motus, ſupereſt alterutra ex parte judicium tuum, in quo mihi æque jucunda erit ſimplicitas diſſentientis quam comprobantis. Vale.

* This ſum is trifling, and muſt be a miſtake in the perſon who copied the letter.

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

MY LORD,

Windſor Caſtle, October 3rd, 1713.

THOUGH the meſſenger is juſt going to be diſpatched, I cannot neglect to improve this opportunity, ſo far at leaſt, as to return you my humble thanks for your obliging letter of the 20th of the laſt month.

I do aſſure you, my Lord, with the moſt unfeigned ſincerity, that you are ſo far from needing any apology, on account of the enemies you have created in Ireland *, with me, that I love and honour you the more heartily for this very reaſon.

You give a lively and melancholy picture, of the factious party in the kingdom where you preſide; but you point out at the ſame time, the true, and I add, the only means of blunting their malice, and baffling their attempts. I know nothing, which can reſult from oppoſing faction, ſo bad as ſubmitting to it; and therefore, a ſteady purſuit of the principles which you now act upon, is both the moſt ſecure, as well as the moſt honeſt meaſure. I dare ſay, the Duke of Shrewſbury goes to you convinced of this truth, and that the ſoftneſs of his manner, will not in the leaſt abate of the vigour of his adminiſtration.

I know very well, Sir John Stanley's † relations, acquaintance, and habits to be entirely Whiggiſh, which I have taken the liberty to tell him, are matter of much prejudice to him, and which will oblige him

* A book intituled, "Memoirs of the Chevalier de St. George," had been publiſhed in Dublin, for which the printer, Loyd, had been proſecuted, but being poor and penitent, the Lord Chancellor, and others in the Council, conſidered him as an object of the Queen's mercy, and a *noli proſequi* was entered. This, added to the report of the Chancellor's ſpeech, January 1712, when Lord Juſtice, to the Mayor and Aldermen of Dublin, by which he was ſaid to have prejudged a cauſe then pending, made him many enemies. The fact was, he was a Tory, and the Whigs having then a majority in the Commons, and the Tories in the Lords, he was proſecuted by the former and protected by the latter.

† Many years Commiſſioner of the Cuſtoms, and now Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant.

to more than ordinary circumſpection in his behaviour. He has profeſſed to me, all that can be aſked of a reaſonable man, and I hope, he will make theſe profeſſions good.

Being called away by ſome indiſpenſable buſineſs, I muſt defer to another occaſion, what I have farther to offer to your Lordſhip, and ſhall ſubſcribe myſelf, my Lord.

Your Lordſhip's, &c.

To the Earl of Strafford.

My Lord,

Aſhdown Park, October 8th, 1713.

TIRED as I am with fox-hunting, ſince the meſſenger is to return immediately to London, I cannot neglect to return your Lordſhip my humble thanks, for the favour of your's of the 13th, N.S. and for the juſt manner in which your Lordſhip receives what I write. When I have a real friendſhip, as I have for you, my paſſions work, as they do in caſes where I am perſonally affected; to this, therefore, be pleaſed to aſcribe, and for this to excuſe, any ſentiments of mine, delivered in terms which you may think too ſtrong.

I am unwilling to enter into the diſpute, which I hope is over, ſince your Lordſhip will, to be ſure, have received the Queen's permiſſion to come to Britain. I ſhall only obſerve, that when I writ to the Biſhop, I writ by order, that the perſon and titles are not altered, as your Lordſhip imagines them; ſince, though we, in writing, and when we ſpeak, ſtyle the Biſhop, Biſhop of London, yet he is ſtill, in ſtrictneſs, Biſhop of Briſtol, and muſt continue ſo, until he is confirmed, and when he ſigns, muſt ſign ſo.

A thouſand thanks to you, for the favourable opinion you entertain of, and for the indulgence you ſhow, my brother.

I hope

I hope ſo ſoon to embrace you at Windſor, that I ſay in this letter the leſs; I muſt not, however, conclude it, without aſſuring your Lordſhip, that I have a true ſenſe of your merit, which ſome people in the world know very well, and which I have ſhown upon occaſions, which your Lordſhip never know of; that I ſhall ever preſerve a ſincere friendſhip for you, and that I hope ever to keep that which your Lordſhip has for me. You and I, my Lord, have run together through great difficulties, and who knows what time may again bring forth?

Adieu, my Lord, ever inviolably your's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From Mr. Prior.*

MATTHEW TO HENRY.

Fontainbleau, October 9th, N.S. 1713.

THE affair of which I write, in my letter to the Secretary of State, is of ſo nice a nature, that I can only tell Lord Bolingbroke, in particular, ſome parts of the diſcourſe I have heard upon it: That Dunkirk was not to be left an hour in any hands but thoſe of the King's ſubjects: that the King dying left France in the hands of a minority, the Queen dying left England in the hands of the Whigs, the Houſe of Hanover in this caſe would give Dunkirk to the Dutch, for the ſhipping they would ſend the Elector to come over; in caſe it were practicable to leave Dunkirk ſome time longer in our hands, our own opinions might change, the new Parliament be againſt it, and they (the French) loſe the nation they might intend to have obliged by this conceſſion, and the Queen herſelf be prejudiced by it.

As to their helping us to make the Dutch reaſonable, I believe the King is very ſincere, and that Monſieur de Torcy will give the moſt

* Private.

effectual orders in this behalf, as I have writ in my other letter. Concerning the ſhip Neptune, which Gaultier recommends to Monſieur Pontchartrain, I had already ſpoke and writ to that Miniſter; and the perſons concerned are here upon the ſpot to look after it. As your letter will be eſteemed a thing of courſe, and you need not fear your being able to oblige that good-natured perſon, Pontchartrain, too far; I think it had beſt *valere quantum valere poteſt*; and you need give yourſelf no farther trouble about it. Ever your's,

M. P.

Duke of Shrewſbury wrote me word, Lord Treaſurer had ſomething for me, which he had named to him, but his Grace would not truſt it to paper: you know, a curioſity in what concerns me ſo nearly is at leaſt pardonable: if his Grace in diſcourſe tells it to your Lordſhip, you will be pleaſed to let me know it, by the next meſſenger, or in cypher, as you pleaſe. Peterborough is, I know, to congratulate the new King of Sicily; as I already know the deſigned King of Sardinia, may not my congratulating him, recompenſe my diſappointment as to the other? I leave this to your Lordſhip's kind conſideration.

From Mr. Prior *.*

My Lord,

Paris, October 6-17th, 1713.

TO my long public letter, let me join my hearty thanks to you, for your two private friendly epiſtles of the 25th and 29th. I am now upon the greateſt piece of negociation that I ever had in my life, the diſtribution of your cargo: upon which the Noailles and the Croiſſys are in an uproar, but having wherewithal to appeaſe them,

* Private.

I begin the great work this afternoon, and ſhall give you a full account of my actions by the next: both at Fontainbleau and Croiſſy, we have all remembered *le cher Henri* in the friendlieſt manner imaginable; and on my ſide, I have and will continue to lye moſt ſtrenuouſly for you. You may be ſure, my dear Lord, that I am very glad to come home to you, and to find ſome ſettlement, which I do not doubt of, from Lord Treaſurer's goodneſs to me: if (whatever it is) it were done, or at leaſt ſo far done as to be talked of here, before I left this Court, it would have a better air, and give me more credit in diſpatching the buſineſs I have yet to do; you know theſe people, and the account they will make of Matthew, as they think he has credit with Henry and Robin; but this is all with a perfect ſubmiſſion.

Adieu, my dear Lord; if at my return I may help you any way in your drudgery, the youngeſt clerk you have is not more at your command; and if at the old hour of midnight, after your drudgery, a cold bladebone of mutton, in Duke Street, will go down *ſicut olim*, it, with all that belongs to the maſter of the houſe (except Nanny) is entirely yours.

I hear by chance that little Widow Jerſey * deſigns to come to France; *cela ne vaut pas*; *le diable, empêchez-la, my Lord, de le faire autant que vous pouvez.*

Adieu, may God bleſs you, men reſpect you, and women love you.

From Mr. Prior †.

MY DEAR LORD,

Verſailles, October 9-20th, 1713.

I HAVE troubled you with ſo long a letter, that a large poſtſcript would be even grievous.

I have made the diſtribution of your goods, and given the parties con-

* The Counteſs, widow of the late Earl, ſhe was a Roman Catholic. † Private.

cerned notice thereof: but the Noailles are in the country, and they and the Torcy party, desire their effects may remain with me some days. Monsieur de Torcy has his Cæsar, *il est bien beau*, and he will thank you himself; he will sit for his picture as soon as he can come to Paris, and then he and Madame Torcy, Bouzolle and I and old Lassy are to drink to you, in sack.

I am amazed at our little friend Jersey's coming hither, as I tell you in my public letter, for fear the Queen should not know of her coming, or think I did; if you knew of it, I believe you would have told me, if not, it is stupendous; it will make more work than we are well aware of in either case. I do not care, let whoso will come, go, be libertines, nuns, or as they please.

I am, ever,

M. Prior.

To the Countess of Jersey *.

Madam,

Ashdown Park, October 11th, 1713.

I AM so many ways concerned in your conduct, as a relation, as a friend, and as one who, in some sort, pawned his credit for your behaviour, that you must not be surprized, if I write to you, even after your last letter.

All the ill consequences, which I foresaw would happen, if you stole yourself away, came on thick, and you are already exposed to every reflection, which from the bottom of my heart, I wished you might avoid. But indeed, that you would steal your son away, was what I never imagined. That out of a mistaken friendship, you would in-

* Then in France.

terrupt, to his unſpeakable prejudice, the method of his education; that you would make ſo ill a return to the Queen, for what ſhe had done, and intended farther to do for my couſin; this, I ſaid, never entered into my thoughts, that you could be capable of.

In a word, Madam, I have always been a ſincere ſervant to you, ever ſince you thought fit to aſk my aſſiſtance; and I will not depart from this ſincerity, in this inſtance, which may very probably be the laſt of the correſpondence between your Ladyſhip and me, or any other of your family, or true friends on this ſide. If therefore, you will write ſuch a letter, as may be fit to ſhow the Queen, concerning the diſpoſition of your own perſon, and your future views, and at the ſame time offer to ſend Mr. Villars * to Weſtminſter, where the Queen deſires he may continue; I can undertake, and I never yet deceived you, as I am willing to hope you never did me, that all which has paſſed will be forgot, that you will be juſtified in the world, and be as you can wiſh to be in the Queen's opinion. I will ſend two ſervants in this caſe to attend my young kinſman over, and it ſhall be my charge to ſee that his education be provided for, and the foundation of his future fortune laid.

If your Ladyſhip has any councellor, who prevails on you to purſue other meaſures, I have done my duty, and you, Madam, muſt run your fate, which will not be ſuch as you flatter yourſelf perhaps with.

In this caſe, it is but fair to tell you, that I will act in ſuch a manner, as ſhall ſhow the world I had no part in your ſecret; and am anſwerable for no part of your conduct.

To all that is above, I may tell you, that my Lady Maſham agrees. So that from what I write now, you have a full view of her ſenſe as well as mine. God grant you may take ſuch a reſolution, as may give

* The ſon above-mentioned.

thoſe, who have been your friends, no reaſon to repent they ever were ſo.

There is nothing I deſire more paſſionately, than to continue always, Madam, your Ladyſhip's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Mr. Prior.

HARRY TO MATT, S.D.

Aſhdown Park, October 11th, 1713.

AS to Dunkirk, I ſhall only add to what my public letter ſays, that I am not much ſurprized.

The ſeaſon of compliance ſucceeds the ſeaſon of ſubmiſſion. Before your ſigning the peace, France muſt have complied with what the Queen could in reaſon aſk, either on this, or on any other head. After the ſigning the peace, it was eaſy to foreſee the terms of civility would be preſerved, but the real actual complaiſance would grow much more rare.

I muſt inform you, that my Lady Jerſey has impoſed on Lady Maſham, as much as me; we both diſſuaded her from what certainly was a fooliſh reſolution, and what I hope will not appear to be of a worſe nature; but we avoided ſpeaking to the Queen, in hopes that ſhe would once more have conſulted me, before ſhe went.

I am now heartily ſorry I truſted her ſo far, ſince it would have been eaſy to have ſtopped her ſon. This meſſenger delivers her a letter in his way to you; at his return, pray write very plainly to her. If ſhe does not deſign to defraud the creditors, ſhe is mad to leave herſelf no reſource at home, which, by the Queen's favours, ſhe would have had; and if ſhe does, ſhe muſt remember, that her jointure may by law be entered upon.

I really do not know what Lord Treaſurer deſigns for you; but I hope,

and

and believe it is of a nature to make your fortune eaſy. If it be equal to your merit, and my wiſhes, it will indeed be conſiderable.

Adieu, I am ever the ſame.

To Mr. Secretary Bromley.

SIR,

Aſhdown Park, October 21ſt, 1713.

MR. TILSON will have the honour to tranſmit to you ſome additional inſtructions to the Earl of Peterborough, which I have prepared here, and ſent him to tranſcribe. I beg of you to offer them to her Majeſty, for her ſign-manual, and immediately to diſpatch them back to my office, from whence they will be conveyed ſafely to my Lord Peterborough, whether he be ſtill at London or ſet out on his journey.

You will be ſo good as to obſerve to the Queen, that it is (I humbly think) much more for her ſervice, to tie his Lordſhip down, by inſtructions, to the points he ſhall meddle with, in his paſſage through France; than to leave him at liberty to entertain the French Miniſters and himſelf, with variety of ſchemes, which at beſt would make them imagine our councils here very uncertain, and which might perhaps ſtart ſome new propoſition, not agreeable to the Queen, nor eaſy to evade.

The firſt part of the inſtructions I have conſulted my Lord Treaſurer upon, who was of my opinion, that it ſhould be given; it is a conſequence of the Queen's obligations, and it will probably have the effect of letting us ſee, betimes, how France ſtands inclined, in a caſe, which we muſt be parties to. In the mean while, it obliges her Majeſty to nothing new.

The ſecond part of theſe inſtructions contains nothing more, than the language which on very mature deliberation, her Majeſty ordered the Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, the Duke of Shrewſbury at Paris, and your humble

humble ſervant here, to hold to the French Miniſters. As the matter is very nice, and will certainly be the ſubject of ſome diſcourſe, when the Earl of Peterborough is at the French Court, I hope the Queen will approve of his being inſtructed to ſpeak conformably to what has already been delivered as her Majeſty's ſenſe.

The laſt part is purely put in *par manière d'acquite*. If any good effect reſults from it, the Queen will, I am ſure, in mercy be glad of it; if none, her Majeſty will, however, have the ſatisfaction of labouring inceſſantly in this inſtance, as ſhe has done in ſo many others, to do good to the ungrateful, and to ſave the infatuated.

I ſhall in few days attend my duty, at Windſor, neither would I take theſe few days, did I not ſee that the buſineſs of the department allowed of it; for my health, my private affairs, and much more my amuſements, have been, and always ſhall be, neglected, when the Queen's ſervice, or her commands call upon me.

Be ſo kind as to aſſure the Queen of my humble duty, and inform her Majeſty, that although I have reaſon to think the Elector of Bavaria may be induced, on account of his peace with the Emperor, and the marriage of his ſon to an Archducheſs, to drop his pretentions to the kingdom of Sardinia; and although, in this caſe, it is of moment to ſound the French, and to think betimes what diſpoſition ſhall be made of that iſland; yet I avoided touching this point in my Lord Peterborough's inſtructions, not knowing how far the pleaſure of giving kingdoms might tranſport his Lordſhip. I have at the ſame time taken another way of being informed, how far the negociation about Sardinia has gone, and what views France may have with relation to it.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

A Mon-

A Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont *.

De mon Ecurie, ce 21me Octobre, 1713.

PARMI les chiens & les chevaux, au milieu de la plus profonde retraite, je n'ai rien à ſouhaiter pour être tout-à-fait heureux, que la converſation du cher Duc d'Aumont, puiſque, ſelon les apparences je ne vous verrai de long-tems, peut-être jamais: écrivons-nous quelque fois, s'il vous plaît.

Vous retournez en France, & je ſais qu'il n'eſt pas néceſſaire de vous animer à tout faire, pour entretenir une bonne correſpondance entre nos deux nations. Je vous jure, que ſi je continue à travailler à l'avenir, comme j'ai fait par le paſſé, le principal motif qui m'y porte eſt le deſir ſincère que j'ai de contribuer à perfectionner & à affermir cette union, qui a été formée, nonobſtant tous les efforts que la malice pouvoit inventer, & la malice mettre en exécution. Je crois que vous me connoiſſez aſſez pour ajouter foi à ce que je viens de vous dire.

Votre parent trouvera en moi un ami très ſincère, & un ſerviteur très fidelle. J'eſpère vous donner une réponſe, par ordre de la Reine, à la lettre que vous avez écrit à ſa Majeſté, d'abord que je ſerai de retour au Château de Windſor.

Mes amis qui ſe trouvent ici, ſe ſouviennent de vous, avec toute l'eſtime & toute la tendreſſe qu'exigent vos mérites, & votre ſanté ne pourra jamais être oublié dans aucun endroit où je me trouverai.

Le chiffre vous ſera remis ſurement. Je réponds de vous ſatisfaire ſur l'Affiente. Je ne réponds pas de même à l'égard du Sieur Saintard.

Adieu, mon chez Duc; je vous embraſſe mille & mille fois. Que je ceſſe de vivre, ſi jamais je ceſſe d'être, avec un dévouement parfait, votre, &c.

B.

* Now about to return to France, after a vain, oſtentatious, and ruinous embaſſy. Louis XIV gave him 100,000 livres, and granted him a penſion of 50,000 for four years, to recover his finances.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Windsor Castle, November 10th, 1713.

ALTHOUGH an action would not lie in Westminster Hall, yet I am sure it would in a court of honour, as much against him, who refused his certificate to the merit he knew, as against him, who gave his certificate in contradiction to his opinion.

This principle, my Lord, must excuse me to your Grace, for troubling you in behalf of Mr. Cecil, who has deserved well and suffered much; so much that the wounds he has received are perhaps the least hardship he has undergone.

I implore a favourable audience for him, and dare say for him what was said for Septimus, *Scribe tui gregis*, &c.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Sir John Stanley.

SIR,

Whitehall, November 10th, 1713.

I CANNOT neglect to recommend Colonel Cecil to your favour, and through you to my Lord Lieutenant.

He is an officer of very real merit, and carries about him some melancholy proofs of it.

He was kept down in the regiment, by the coming of a young fellow from school, who had in his childhood a commission of captain. He hopes, and sure hopes reasonably enough, a seniority, deduced from infancy, shall not eternally stand in the way of actual service.

You are ſo true a friend to thoſe who deſerve well, that I know I need make you no excuſe for the trouble I give. I conclude therefore, by aſſuring you that I am, dear Sir, your moſt faithful, and moſt humble ſervant.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

MY LORD,

Windſor-Caſtle, November 10th, 1713.

BEING obliged to diſpatch the packet to Ireland from this place, I have not before me the letters, for which I am extremely obliged to your Lordſhip, and muſt therefore preſume on your Lordſhip's indulgence, if I omit giving a particular anſwer to any point.

Your Lordſhip will hear from other, and from better hands, what concern the letters of the third of this month, from Dublin, have occaſioned here. My Lord Chancellor Harcourt, Mr. Attorney, and Mr. Solicitor General, being poſitive in their opinion, even upon recollection and examination, that the mayor of Dublin cannot legally hold over *, and the only expedient which the Privy Council of Ireland ſeemed determined to acquieſce in, being built on a ſuppoſition that ſuch holding over is legal, her Majeſty is under much perplexity and apprehenſion. This comfort however ſhe has, that your Lordſhip and

* The diſpute was about the election of a Lord Mayor of Dublin; 17 aldermen choſe one candidate, and were oppoſed by the then Lord Mayor. The difference was to be ſettled by the Privy Council, who, after hearing arguments on both ſides, reſolved, 1ſt, that the Lord Mayor has the right of nominating three aldermen, to be put in election for the Mayoralty, and that the Mayor and Aldermen, are obliged to elect one of theſe, unleſs juſt objection be made againſt him. 2d, That the proceedings of the 17 Aldermen, in the abſence of the Lord Mayor, was a breach of the new rules, and ſuch election was void. After this, the Lord Mayor ſummoned the Aldermen to proceed to a new election, and named three candidates, but a majority of the Aldermen objecting to the firſt named, the Mayor diſſolved the meeting, this occurred 10th September. Nothing was ſettled, and the Lord Mayor, Sir Samuel Cooke, was now holding over.

the

the reſt of her ſervants, want neither capacity to judge, nor temper to manage; and on this ſhe relies for a happy iſſue of a conteſt, which muſt be reckoned unfortunate, not perhaps ſo much from the nature of it, as from the conjuncture of time.

We expect, with no ſmall impatience, the next letter from your ſide, that we may know what paſſed in the Council, which the Lord Lieutenant writes, that he intended to call as ſoon as the 5th of November was over. I ſhall then have the honour to write again to your Lordſhip, who will be pleaſed, in the mean time, and at all times, to look on me as, my Lord, your Lordſhip's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Windſor-Caſtle, November 10th, 1713.

BESIDES the letters, which I acknowledge in my other diſpatch, I am to return your Grace my very humble thanks for your's of the 29th of the laſt month.

I am extremely ſorry on your Grace's private account, as well as on the public ſcore, that you meet with tempers leſs tractable, and difficulties greater than you expected *. But inſtead of wiſhing for one more equal to the hard taſk which you have in hand, it is to me a great comfort, to reflect, that the Queen could no where have found any one ſo likely to draw her affairs out of perplexities, and to reſtore the peace of Ireland, as your Grace, from your natural temper, from your acquired talents, and from the character which your conduct in the world has formed. I am willing to promiſe myſelf, that your Grace

* The Duke arrived in Ireland during the ferment of the controverſy of the Dublin Mayoralty, and of the general election, which was carried on with all the virulence of party rancour.

will ſucceed in allaying the ferment. This I am confident of, that if you cannot perſuade them, neither would they be perſuaded, though one ſhould riſe from the dead.

My Lord Chancellor, my Lord Treaſurer, and Mr. Secretary Bromley, will all write by this poſt to Lord Chancellor Phipps, as I have likewiſe taken the liberty to do. Mr. Secretary, I believe, writes at the ſame time to the Earl of Angleſea *; too many endeavours cannot be uſed to diſpoſe the minds of men to ſuch a temper as you may be able to work upon.

Your Grace was very good in leaving directions about poor Booth †, in Mr. Vice Chamberlain's hands, who has, I believe, adjuſted the intereſt, and diſpatched the patent. It belongs only to thoſe of your Grace's ſtandard, not to let ſlip the minuteſt affairs, while they roll in their minds the fate of kingdoms, and the government of the world.

I am ever, with the moſt unfeigned reſpect, my Lord Duke, your Grace's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, November 12th, 1713.

MONSIEUR Giraldi ‡, came juſt now to acquaint me, that the Great Prince was certainly dead, and that he expected every moment, orders to notify his death in form to your Majeſty. It is much to be apprehended leſt this event may occaſion new diſputes in Europe, before the old ones are reconciled, and leſt the views which the

* Vice Treaſurer of Ireland. † The Comedian. ‡ Miniſter of the Grand Duke of Tuſcany.

Emperor,

Emperor, as well as the Kings of France and Spain, has on the ſucceſſion of Florence, may now take place, ſo as to add freſh obſtructions to the peace.

I have taken care that ſome Lords of the Admiralty do attend next Sunday at Windſor, becauſe, it is probable, your Majeſty may think fit to quicken your meaſures for ſending a ſquadron of frigates into the Mediterranean.

I have received a letter from the Duke of Shrewſbury of the 5th of November; the ſubſtance of it is no more than this, that all induſtry is uſed to make the diſpute at Dublin a party cauſe, and that he deſires my Lord Chancellor, my Lord Treaſurer, and myſelf, to acquaint the leading men in Ireland, with our opinions of the neceſſity of quieting this contention. This part of my Lord Duke's letter is already anſwered, for we have writ, and Mr. Secretary Bromley has done the ſame.

The Committee of Lords met this morning. The principal matters which they had before them, was the ſtate of Northern affairs, on which head they found it abſolutely neceſſary to ſpeak with Mr. Roſenkrantz. He is therefore writ to, and deſired to come to this place to-morrow morning, at twelve: my Lords thinking I might be of uſe to them at this conference, I cannot ſet out, as I intended, in the morning, but I will not fail, the moment the Lords riſe, to return to Windſor.

I hope my Lords of Trade will be ready with their part, as I ſhall be with mine, for appointing Commiſſaries of commerce, and for diſpatching a Miniſter to Madrid; I ſhall put my Lord Treaſurer in mind to be ready to offer ſuch perſons to your Majeſty, as you may depend upon for both theſe preſſing ſervices.

Mr. Worſley is ready, and may ſet out towards Liſbon next week.

There have been letters, from the Emperor to the Catalans, intercepted

cepted by the Spaniards, wherein he exhorts them to continue the war, and promiſes to aſſiſt them with the money ariſing from the State of Final. I hear that the King of Spain's agent is preparing a memorial on this ſubject, but I have not yet ſpoke with him myſelf. This ſcandalous violation of public faith, will perhaps force your Majeſty from ſome reſtraints, which your own goodneſs has hitherto kept you under. I am, with unfeigned duty and zeal, Madam,

Your Majeſty's moſt faithful,

Moſt humble, and moſt devoted ſervant,

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, November 12th, 1713.

I RECEIVED the honour of your Grace's letter, of the 5th inſtant, yeſterday, on my arrival from Windſor. What you are pleaſed, my Lord, to expect from your ſervants, on this ſide of the water, is already performed; and you will have found, by my letter of Tueſday laſt, that my Lord Chancellor, my Lord Treaſurer, Mr. Secretary Bromley, and I, have writ our ſentiments very freely, about the unfortunate diſpute which has ſubſiſted ſo long, and been maintained ſo warmly. All the endeavours, which your Grace has uſed, ſeem pointed ſo plainly to get over the preſent critical conjuncture, and yet leave the council at full liberty to ſupport, in any other ſeaſon, the right they claim, that to me it is a matter of amazement, to ſee any induſtry uſed to render this a cauſe of party. If any advantage was to be given to the Aldermen over the Council, party might, indeed, be pleaded, and I ſhould be extremely concerned at it; for, without breach of charity, it may be ſaid,

ſaid, that there is a good deal of the ſpirit of Cromwell's agitators, in the Iriſh Whig leaders *. Every thing, I hope, has been done, I am ſure every thing muſt be done, that is poſſible, to aſſiſt your Grace to carry on a ſmooth and quiet ſeſſion of Parliament. The Tories will ſurely think it their intereſt to ſupport that adminiſtration, by which they have been raiſed from oppreſſion, and in which all their reaſonable hopes muſt center; and I hear they are in a fair way of having a clear majority in the Houſe of Commons, according to the courſe which the elections hitherto have taken †. But of this it is impertinent for me to write to your Grace.

A violent cold, a ſtate-day, and a politic ſermon, are three as great plagues as can well meet together. I moſt heartily wiſh, that a ſucceſsful iſſue of this perplexed affair, may make your Grace amends for the trouble you meet with in the progreſs of it, and I perſuade myſelf this will be the caſe. A ſteady purſuit of a reaſonable meaſure, and a ſteady ſupport of the Church intereſt, will get the better of any either accidental or artificial jealouſies. If the firſt occaſion miſtakes of your Grace's meaning, the latter will ſet thoſe miſtakes right. We expect every moment to hear what has paſſed in the Council, an anſwer to which it ſhall be my care to procure with all poſſible diſpatch.

I am, &c.

B.

* Mr. Broderick, Speaker of the Commons; Lord Chancellor in 1714; created Lord Broderick, in 1715; and Viſcount Middleton, in 1717. Mr. Moleſworth, created Viſcount, in 1716. Mr. Foſter, made Chief Juſtice of the Court of Common Pleas, 1714.

† This was a miſtake, the Whigs had a majority, and, upon the choice of a Speaker, carried their point by four voices.

To the Duke of Shrewſbury.

My Lord,

Windſor Caſtle, November 17th, 1713.

WILL you forgive me writing three letters by one packet? I could not forbear adding theſe lines in private, to mention a thought which occurred the other day to Lord Chancellor and myſelf, and which very probably has been entertained already by your Grace. The Tories are ſure, if they do not flatter themſelves, of a conſiderable majority in your Houſe of Commons; why ſhould not therefore a bill put an end to the preſent conteſt, and clear whatever is dark in the conſtitution of the city of Dublin; ſo as to prevent all future cavils, and to ſettle the corporation with juſtice to all, and with particular ſatisfaction to our friends? I know that the other ſide, whilſt they flattered themſelves with hopes of being ſuperior in Parliament, deſigned not only an attack on the Chancellor of Ireland, for his ſhare in theſe proceedings, but even to have pinned down and ſanctified their ſides of the queſtion by a law. I make no more apologies, but to depend on the preſcription which I have to entitle me to your Grace's indulgence.

I am, &c.

B.

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

Windſor Caſtle, November 17th, 1713.

I RECEIVE, my Lord, at all times, your Lordſhip's letters with very particular ſatisfaction, and can aſſure you, that no correſpondent you have, will more induſtriouſly endeavour to make a good uſe of the informations you are pleaſed to communicate. If the Mayor

can hold over, that is undoubtedly the beſt of all expedients, and was always thought ſo here. Other expedients were ſtarted, on a ſuppoſition that this could not take place; and I confeſs, I am ſorry to ſee the only one, which our friends have left themſelves to ſtand upon, liable to the leaſt doubt.

The happy turn, which the elections take, gives indeed a new turn to our thoughts; with a majority of churchmen, the whole may be ſettled, both for the preſent and for futurity, and this I hope too, without occaſioning any great diſorder, or meaſuring out any great length to the Seſſion.

What your Lordſhip obſerves, is an old artifice of the Whigs, and when you conſider how much it imports them to ſow jealouſies between my Lord Lieutenant and the Tories, you will not be ſurprized that they put it in practice. But, my Lord, the ſtory mentioned at the latter end of the letter, is the true picture of the Duke of Shrewſbury, and ſhows what, in my conſcience, I think is at the bottom of his heart. For God's ſake, my Lord, let no Whigs ſucceed by impudence, and crowd our friends out of a place, where they would be the moſt acceptable. I am, &c.

B.

May I entreat the favour of your Lordſhip, to aſſure my Lord Angleſea, whom I ſuppoſe at Dublin, of my moſt humble ſervice.

To Sir John Stanley.

SIR,

Windſor Caſtle, November 17th, 1713.

WE wiſh heartily here, that the learned in the law on your ſide, may be more in the right, concerning the holding over of the Mayor, than their brethren on our ſide of the water. I find, however, that neither Lord Chancellor, Mr. Attorney nor Mr. Solicitor General,

will give up their opinion, unleſs ſome new charter, ſome new preſcription be produced to them, to determine them ſo to do. In the mean while, however, I confeſs to you, that this diſpute and its conſequences grow every day momentous to my apprehenſion. We feared, in the firſt place, leſt the ferment of this contention, meeting with the other ferment which the elections naturally produce, ſome diſturbance more than ordinary might enſue. This fear is over, the elections are finiſhed, or near ſo, the diſpute ſubſiſts, there has been one riot *, and the worſt that can happen is paſt.

Another apprehenſion was, that the Parliament might take part in this cauſe, and the majority of the Commons, being Whigs, which was then you know depended on as ſure, might ſide with the Aldermen, againſt the Council, againſt the Chancellor, in ſhort, againſt thoſe which were the Government, and whom her Majeſty could not abandon. This fear is likewiſe out of doors, if it be true, that the Tories will be, as I moſt heartily wiſh they may, the majority of the Lower Houſe.

I incloſe a letter to my friend Lord Chancellor Phipps, which I beg you to deliver to him. I hope you will have no differences with him; if you have, he is a plain and honeſt man, and therefore it will be the more eaſy to make them up, and to unite heartily in the Queen's ſervice, and the purſuit of the public good; both which, I perſuade myſelf, you have both at heart. I am ſo confined to this place, that I can give you no news from this place, or the cockpit.

I am, &c.

* At Dublin. The mob appears to have been in favour of Government; the military were called in, one man of the mob was killed, and the Whigs in Parliament approved of the conduct of the ſoldiery.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, November 25th, 1713.

I HAVE received this morning, letters from Dublin, of the 18th and 19th of this month: the Duke of Shrewſbury writes, that he has, with the advice of your Majeſty's Council, prorogued the Parliament to the 25th inſtant, which is this very day, upon a repreſentation made to his Grace, by my Lord Chancellor and others, that the time between the elections of Members and the 20th day of this month, when the Parliament ſtood appointed to meet, was ſo ſhort, that many of them could not be in town, ſoon enough to be preſent at the choice of a ſpeaker.

My Lord Lieutenant ſeems doubtful, whether he ſhall be able to carry the Speaker, the Whigs ſetting up Broderick againſt your Majeſty's recommendation of your Solicitor *; and his Grace farther thinks, that if the majority of Churchmen be not great, the clamour will be ſo againſt thoſe who have puſhed the affair of the city.

On the other hand, I find the reſt of your Majeſty's ſervants, and even thoſe who have moſt to apprehend, perſonally, out of all fear either as to the choice of a Speaker, or as to proceedings upon the diſpute between the Council and Aldermen. The next letters will determine this difference.

I have ſpent near three hours with Mr. Clarke † this morning, and have got a clear knowledge of the ſtate of every thing, which relates to admiralty affairs, and which depends now before your Majeſty. If my Lord Treaſurer allows me to receive his directions in theſe points, and in thoſe others, which your Majeſty commanded me to ſpeak to him

* Sir Richard Levintz, who in 1720 was Lord Chief Juſtice of the Common Pleas.

† George Clarke, a Lord of the Admiralty; he was Secretary to George Prince of Denmark, when Lord High Admiral.

upon, they may all be off your Majeſty's hands on Monday at fartheſt. I have writ to my Lord, but have yet no anſwer; I hear he is ill himſelf. We hear, and I doubt the news is true, that your Majeſty's ſhip the Ormond is caſt away, on the coaſt of Languedoc, and that all her men are drowned.

Monſieur Roſenkrantz was juſt now with me, to let me know that he expected to be recalled very ſoon. He entered into the ſtate of his maſter's affairs with much plainneſs. I anſwered him very honeſtly, but ſhall not now trouble your Majeſty with the particulars.

The Committee of Council ſits to-morrow. On Friday, if it be poſſible, I will return to my attendance at Windſor. I am, &c.

B.

To Don Patricio Lawleſs *.

SIR,

Windſor, November 21ſt, 1713.

I WOULD ſooner have kept the promiſe I made you, had not the illneſs, with which I was ſeized at my return from London to this place, prevented me. I ſhall now give you the beſt account I am able, of what I have immediately in command from her Majeſty to ſay, and alſo of the ſenſe of our Court on the preſent poſture of affairs in general.

There is nothing which the Queen deſires more, than to confirm that friendſhip between herſelf and the Catholic King, and between the Britiſh and Spaniſh nations, which has been ſo happily reſtored; and nothing, I am ſure, can contribute more effectually to this purpoſe, than a free communication of thoughts and deſigns.

* By birth an Iriſhman; appointed by the King of Spain, Commiſſary to ſettle the treaty of commerce with Great Britain.

Your letter to me of the 12th, O.S. and the extract of the Duke of Oſſuna's letter to you, of the 14th, N.S. were both laid before the Queen, during my confinement, by Mr. Secretary Bromley; her Majeſty thought that ſhe could not come to any reſolution on this affair, till ſhe received a more formal and direct communication thereof; neither indeed can it be expected, that her Majeſty ſhould make any poſitive declaration concerning the infraction of the treaty, mentioned by the Duke d'Oſſuna, or proceed to act on the foot of her guaranty, until the party, ſuppoſed to have violated the terms of the convention, has been called upon, and ſeveral other previous ſteps have been taken, which juſtice, as well as decency and the nature of engagements of this kind require. But this, Sir, the Catholic King may reſt aſſured of, that, in a proper time and a proper manner, the Queen will not only fulfill all her engagements to him, but even be ready to take ſuch meaſures, in concert with him, as may, by the bleſſing of God, effectually reſtore the internal quiet of Spain, and the general tranquillity of Europe.

It has been matter of much concern to her Majeſty, to obſerve the negociations of peace grew more embroiled towards their concluſion, and that great work fail, as it were, in the laſt act of it; as if the ſpirit, with which we began our treaties, had ſpent itſelf; and as if ſome parties, being drawn out of the war, advantage might be made of delaying with others, and a general peace was not now of ſuch immediate neceſſity.

Theſe are indeed the ſentiments of the Imperial Court; ſuſpending of all treaty, and at any rate protracting the war, is the intereſt of his Imperial Majeſty, according to the views which he ſeems to have: but, for this very reaſon, it can never be the intereſt of the Catholic King. The Miniſters at Vienna have no doubt a pleaſure to ſee the Catalans and the people of Majorca continue obſtinate in their refuſal to ſubmit;

the

the war on the ſide of Portugal rather in a condition of rekindling, than being extinguiſhed, and then the treaties between her Majeſty and the Catholic King, which want little more than being underſtood to be perfected, ſtill open.

Put yourſelf for a moment in the ſituation of one of theſe gentlemen, and you will be ſtruck with the ſame flattering hopes as they entertain, from the conſiderations I have mentioned. Every hour which defers the general peace, and the new ſettlement of Europe intended by it, from taking place, gives a chance for the happening of ſome out of a multitude of accidents, any one of which might, at this time, render all the ſteps we have made towards peace and order vain, and throw us back into confuſion. Whereas, if any of theſe accidents ſhould fall out after Europe was come to an abſolute ſettlement, and all the late quarrels were, by common conſent, adjuſted, they might indeed give us trouble, and be accounted misfortunes; but they could not in probability, have the dreadful conſequence, I mentioned before, of throwing us back into that wild confuſion, from whence we are now almoſt entirely extricated. Nothing need be ſaid, to ſhow, that the very reverſe of all this is the intereſt of Spain and France, as well as of Great Britain.

Let us, therefore, deſcend to particulars, and conſider which way the preſent courſe of affairs tends, whether to the ſcheme of the Imperial Court, or to that which ought to be ours.

The delay of the peace between Spain and Portugal gives preſent encouragement, and may, without diſpute, give future advantage to the Catalans: the reſiſtance of the Catalans may prove of ſtill greater moment, and of worſe conſequence than it is now apprehended to be, if the Miniſters of Spain, by exacting terms too rigorous of thoſe of Portugal, who have hitherto felt no return to thoſe facilities which their maſter gave in the beginning of the negociation, ſhould drive the Court of Liſbon into a ſort of generous deſpair, and make them

reſolve

reſolve at all events to riſk the continuance of the war. There remains behind theſe, another particular, which muſt be allowed very much to aggravate the two evils which I laſt mentioned. The treaty of peace between Great Britain and Spain is indeed concluded, but not ratified. The treaty of commerce between theſe nations, in negociating which there is no trial of ſkill, no deſign to carry any point but what is for the eaſe of trade, and conſequently a benefit to his Catholic Majeſty, to his ſubjects, and to all people who have any commerce whatſoever in his dominions, remains ſtill unfiniſhed; and the differences, as they appear upon the face of the draught laſt tranſmitted from Utrecht, are ſuch as we imagine to have been entirely reconciled, or rather to have been never ſtarted at Madrid.

The Queen gave the firſt motion to all the tranſactions of peace; it may be ſaid, without vanity, and with great truth, that whatever has been either eaſy or honourable for Spain, has been either directly procured by the Queen, or brought about in conſequence of what had been done by her. To ſet this matter in its full light, it is only neceſſary to recollect the ſeveral bargains, as far as Spain is affected by them, which were made before any correſpondence was opened between the Queen and his Catholic Majeſty, and thoſe which have been entered into ſince. And now, what appearance muſt it have to the world, and what effect muſt that appearance have on the minds of men, if the intereſt of her Majeſty ſhould be ſome of the laſt to be determined at Madrid? But this is not all. The affairs of Europe are ſtill embroiled; the conſtitution of this government expoſes our politics to ſtrange viciſſitudes, and runs us into unaccountable extremes.

Is it reconcileable, therefore, to the rules of prudence, not to prevent any incident which may create a new ferment here? which, conſidering the figure that Great Britain has of late years taken upon her,

her, and is ſtill in condition to make, muſt to a great degree affect the affairs of Europe in general, and of Spain in particular. I believe I have formerly acquainted you with the purport of a defenſive alliance made, in 1703, between her Majeſty and the King of Portugal. Suppoſe now that her Majeſty ſhould be obliged, before her treaties with Spain are concluded, and their ratifications exchanged, to put this treaty in execution; and the King of Portugal has already made demand of the ſhips and men, which, by virtue thereof, are to be furniſhed in his defence. If we enter into any meaſures of this kind, our treaties being concluded with Spain, the defence of Portugal will be our only care, nothing will be able to carry us farther. But ſhould a body of the Queen's troops, and a ſquadron of her ſhips, appear in this cauſe, before the renewal of friendſhip between our two nations was ſolemnly ratified, who could anſwer for the advantages which might be taken, and the improvement which might be made of this ſtep, both by the enemies of peace abroad, and by that number of factious people here, who deſire nothing more than a renewal of our former quarrel, and a revival of the war? Be pleaſed to carry this thoroughly on, and to ſee how far the war in Catalonia is, and may be, affected by delays uſed in finiſhing our treaties.

It was upon a confidence that no difficulties, of the nature of thoſe, which at this time obſtruct the concluſion of the treaty of commerce, would be inſiſted on; it was on a confidence that, the King of Portugal having departed from that demand of a barrier on the continent of Spain, which gave ſo much offence to the Spaniards, the Catholic King would, inſtead of raiſing any new demands, have complied with the few which then remained, that her Majeſty withdrew her own forces out of Catalonia, ſtopped the ſupplies which ſhe uſed to furniſh to the Imperial troops, and laboured ſo zealouſly and ſo ſucceſsfully to deliver Spain of all foreign troops, and, as far as in her lay, to put that

kingdom

kingdom into abſolute peace. But can it be expected, can, if I may ſay ſo, the Queen juſtify either to herſelf or to her people, that being diſappointed in both theſe views, that every minute objection becoming ſtrong enough to hinder the Court of Spain from concluding with her, that the abatements, which the King of Portugal had made in his former demands on Spain, having only ſerved to produce new ones upon himſelf, her Majeſty ſhould act very vigorouſly towards completing the reduction of the Catalans? Whereas, if the Queen is no longer concerned in any diſpute with Spain, either on her own account or on account of Portugal, ſhe will be able to aſſume another air; and will, in this inſtance, and in ſeveral others, which it is not hard to foreſee, prove as uſeful as ſhe is a ſincere friend to the Catholic King.

In a word, Sir, when we put the reſtraints which we lie under, the inconveniencies which we actually feel, and the many fatal accidents we are expoſed to, whilſt affairs continue between Great Britain and Spain in the preſent uncertainty, in the balance againſt thoſe points which are ſtill controverted at Utrecht, the latter appear ſuch trifles compared with the former, that I cannot expreſs to you the aſtoniſhment nor concern wherewith our Miniſters are ſtruck. I may tell you likewiſe, in confidence, that the Queen is grown extremely uneaſy at this ſituation of affairs, not only with reſpect to what may paſs abroad, but with reſpect to her adminiſtration at home.

You are ſo well apprized of the nature of this Government in general, and of the particular circumſtances of our parties at this time, that I need not go about to ſhow you what difficulties at home are created by a dubious ſtate of buſineſs abroad. I ſhall only point out to you one conſideration, which is of weight, and deſerves very ſerious attention: a new Parliament is elected, and the two Houſes muſt now, in a ſhort time, aſſemble; the Queen will be obliged to give ſuch a turn to their deliberations, and to make ſuch demands of the

Commons, as ſhall be proportioned to the ſtate of the affairs of Europe, which ſubſiſts at that time, or which ſhe then foreſees, in the courſe of the enſuing year, likely to take place: if, therefore, we remain, either on our own account or on account of Portugal, uncertain what correſpondence, whether a good or bad one, may be entertained betwixt the Queen and his Catholic Majeſty, proviſion muſt be made in Parliament, you know, Sir, for the worſt. The making the proviſion will ſour the minds even of the beſt-diſpoſed; and this ſourneſs of mind will not fail to be acted upon by ſuch as deſire to prevent a perfect reconciliation. But if this reconciliation of all differences be perfected before the meeting of parliament, the proceedings of the two houſes will, without diſpute, be ſuch as are moſt proper to cement this reconciliation, to enable the Queen by all means, whether of force or of good offices, to proſecute the accompliſhment of the great work of a general peace, and abſolutely to defeat the deſigns, and to cut off the hopes, of thoſe who ſtill perſiſt in their attempts to keep the war alive where it rages, and to rekindle it where it has been extinguiſhed.

By the communication, which you will have received from Mr. Moore, you will be apprized of the differences between your Miniſters and ours, in the treaty of commerce, as they ſtand upon Mr. Gilligan's arrival at Utrecht, and joining in the conferences held there. By what the Duke d'Oſſuna and the Marquis de Montéleon, have, I ſuppoſe, written to you, as well as by the accounts which you had from me, you ſee how near an accommodation the diſputes between your Court and that of Liſbon are brought; let me deſire you, on the principles which I have endeavoured in this letter to explain, and by ſuch other arguments, as your own good ſenſe and experience in buſineſs will furniſh you with, to uſe your utmoſt endeavours to prevail on the King your maſter, to bring the two laſt-mentioned negociations to a ſpeedy iſſue; and not to hearken to the in-

ſituations of thoſe miniſters, if any ſuch there are, who, under the notion of ſaving a little on one hand, or of getting a little on the other, hazard the general tranquillity of Europe, and expoſe to ruin a ſcheme, which, by ſo much labour, and through ſo many dangers, is brought to the very point of accompliſhment.

What I have here repreſented to you, will be the foundation of a great part of the inſtructions of that Miniſter, whom her Majeſty intends immediately to diſpatch to Madrid; and who will, I hope, be declared in very few days. This Miniſter will be ſuch an one as poſſeſſes the whole ſecret of our Court; and lives in the utmoſt confidence with us who ſerve. We ſhall therefore hope, that he may be honoured with the particular confidence of the Catholic King and of his Miniſters, and then, humanly ſpeaking, it will be impoſſible to prevent our eſtabliſhing ſuch an union between the two nations, as never yet ſubſiſted in the days of our greateſt intimacy, and our laying of ſuch a foundation as may build up the Spaniſh Monarchy (which it is the true intereſt of Britain, to deſire to ſee) to a greater degree of power, as well in America as in Europe, than perhaps ſhe was miſtreſs of, even before thoſe diſmemberments, which an unfortunate chain of cauſes had rendered unavoidable. I cannot help adding, that as good an opinion as I may have concerted of the character of the perſon I am ſpeaking of; and as fit as I may think him to remove all thoſe difficulties, which obſtruct the concluſion of our treaties, I ſhall be extremely ſorry if any of this work remains for him to do at Madrid; ſince in this caſe, he may indeed, prevent ſome ill conſequences, and ſo play a ſaving game; but it will not be in his, nor in any man's power to prevent ſeveral others, nor to play the game, with the ſame advantage, and aſſurance of ſucceſs, as it is now in our power to do.

It may be proper I ſhould likewiſe inform you, that her Majeſty has ordered a ſhip of ſixty, and another of fifty guns, with two bomb-veſſels, to proceed to the Mediterranean, in about three weeks' time. Theſe

ſhips, together with thoſe which are lately gone from hence, on particular ſervices, with thoſe which are ordered to continue in that ſea, and with thoſe which are now cruiſing on the Corſairs of Sallée, will compoſe a ſquadron of ten or eleven men of war, and two bomb veſſels. This her Majeſty judges will be ſufficient force to undertake any operation, which, for the preſent, may be neceſſary; and as the ſpring ſeaſon of the year advances, this force may, without any difficulty, be increaſed: great caution will be uſed in the perſon appointed to command; who will be ordered to ſail with the firſt ſhips. I can venture to aſſure you, and you may venture to take my word, that he will be ſuch an one, as we can entirely rely upon, for an exact, a faithful, and a vigorous execution, of whatever orders he ſhall receive from the Queen. I moſt heartily wiſh affairs may take ſuch a turn, that his zeal or his capacity may be employed in the ſervice of his Catholic Majeſty, and of the Spaniſh nation.

Before I conclude this letter, there is another article, which I have it in command from her Majeſty, to take notice of to you. The Queen being apprehenſive, from what paſſed at Madrid very lately, that if we do not underſtand one another in time upon this head, diſputes may ariſe, when her Miniſter arrives at the Court; and a nicety in form may prove of real and ſubſtantial prejudice to the common cauſe. When there aroſe ſome doubt at Utrecht, about inſerting the titles of his Catholic Majeſty in the treaty of peace; the Spaniſh Miniſters at firſt inſiſted to have all the titles put into the preamble; but at laſt they agreed to drop that pretenſion, and to let their maſter's titles run as follows: *Sereniſſimus & Potentiſſimus Princeps, & Dominus Philippus Quintus, Dei Gratia, Hiſpaniarum Rex Catholicus, &c.* And becauſe it was not thought proper to change the titles uſed in the renunciation, in order to remove the objections which might have been made on that account, the Plenipotentiaries of Spain ſigned an act, declaring, in their maſter's name, that, although in their full powers, and in ſome part of the treaty,

ſeveral titles were inſerted of places and provinces, which his Catholic Majeſty had yielded; yet his ſaid Majeſty's intent and meaning was not that the uſing ſuch titles ſhould prejudice the rights of any concerned. It was therefore matter of ſurprize to her Majeſty, to find that this diſpute had been again revived, when Lord Lexington exhibited in form his credentials, eſpecially ſince no objection had been made to them, when he produced them at his firſt arrival; and ſince, on the authority of thoſe very credentials, he has treated ſo many months with the Miniſters of Spain; and even ſigned ſeveral public acts. My Lord Lexington has indeed, we find, given a note under his hand, at the inſtance of the Marquis de Bedmar, that he does not doubt, but that the ſtyle given by the late King William, in his letter to his Catholic Majeſty, of the 19th of April, 1701, will be followed for the future. Her Majeſty cannot, however, in the next credentials which are given, and which ſhe has already ordered ſhould be prepared, make uſe of any other ſtyle than that which was, by the expedient above-mentioned, proviſionally ſettled. The titles of his Catholic Majeſty muſt depend on the ſettlement of dominion in Europe, which ſhall take place when the peace is become general; and if the Queen ſhould in ſo ſolemn a manner, ſpecifically determine them before-hand, you muſt agree, Sir, that ſhe would expoſe herſelf to the abſurdity of giving a ſtyle, which the King of Spain himſelf may think fit in ſome inſtances to depart from.

Beſides which conſideration, there occurs another to her Majeſty, of no ſmall importance. You know, and your Court cannot be ignorant, how much induſtry has been uſed by the enemies of peace, not only in this kingdom, but in all other places, to inſinuate and to endeavour to raiſe jealouſies, by perſuading that on one hand, the renunciations will not be eſteemed hereafter binding, if the caſes ſhould happen, againſt which they are made; and on the other hand, that the ceſſions will be as little regarded, if ever the opportunity of reannexing what has been

by

by them alienated, ſhould preſent itſelf; and therefore that this peace cannot be looked upon as definitive, or ſufficient to prevent the revival of thoſe diſputes, which are, as theſe people would have believed, only ſuſpended for a time. Now, Sir, the Queen is unwilling to afford ſo much colour to theſe malicious ſuggeſtions, which are calculated to perplex the minds of men, and to keep our animoſity from ſubſiding, and, as ſhe imagines would be occaſioned if ſhe conſented to give the King your maſter, all the titles which were made uſe of by his predeceſſors, even thoſe which he has, in the moſt ſolemn manner, departed from all right to claim. In a word, by inſiſting on a point to which the Queen cannot yield, his Catholic Majeſty will expoſe her to a very great difficulty, will render that diſpute public, the very ſuſpicion of which, muſt give great advantage to thoſe who continue the war, and occaſion a whole train of inconveniencies; whereas, by purſuing the form hitherto obſerved, all theſe things are avoided, and nothing is given up on the part of Spain, but his Catholic Majeſty is at liberty to demand on this head what he ſhall think proper.

Since the writing thus much of my diſpatch, Mr. Secretary Bromley has communicated to me, the minutes of what has been agreed between your Plenipotentiaries and thoſe of Portugal (a copy * of which minutes

* *Minutes agreed between the Plenipotentiaries of Spain and thoſe of Portugal, at Utrecht.*

" La colonie du Sacrament ſera reſtituée dans l'eſpace de après la ratification de ce traité, pour être poſſédée par le Roi de Portugal en toute propriété, comme ſa Majeſté la poſſédoit immédiatement avant le commencement de cette guerre. Cependant il ſera réſervé au Roi d'Eſpagne la faculté d'offrir au Roi de Portugal un équivalent pour la dite colonie, au contentement du Roi de Portugal, & il ſera accordé le terme de pour offrir & examiner le dit équivalent; & en cas que le dit offre ſoit accepté, la colonie ſera donnée en échange au Roi d'Eſpagne; s'il n'eſt pas accepté, la colonie reſtera au Roi de Portugal, comme ſuſdit eſt dans cet article.

" Quant à l'affaire de l'aſſiento, & des vaiſſeaux, on a cru qu'on pourroit convenir de compenſer la prétenſion des vaiſſeaux, ſur tout ce qui eſt illiquide dans l'aſſiento, comme auſſi ſur l'héritage de Don Franciſco Bernardo, de même que ſur les priſes de vaiſſeaux, qui pourroient avoir été faites ſur les Portugais, à l'occaſion de cette guerre; le Portugal ſe chargeant de contenter le marchand Anglois, Hodges, pour ſes prétenſions ſur les dits vaiſſeaux; bien-entendu que le liquide porté par la tranſaction doit être payé.

" Quant aux maiſons, on rappellera l'article 8me du traité de 1668, & on le confirmera de nouveau,

minutes I here incloſe). By them, Sir, you ſee that peace is made, if the two Courts of Madrid and Liſbon, approve what their reſpective Miniſters have ſettled; the approbation of the latter, I think, I dare anſwer for. For God's ſake, uſe your utmoſt induſtry to procure the approbations of the former. I have often told you, and I repeat to you, that the Queen cannot abandon the King of Portugal; ſhe muſt ſee him ſafe out of the war, and ſhe muſt riſk every thing, even thoſe intereſts which are neareſt to her, in this cauſe. I have nothing to add, but my excuſes for ſo long a letter, and my ſincere aſſurances of being with all eſteem, &c.

B.

From Mr. Prior.*

MY DEAR LORD,

Paris, October 16th-27th, 1713.

WE are all very jocund upon the diſtribution of our ſeveral quantities of your preſent, which by the incloſed account you will ſee I have made like a prudent and honeſt man; as to the latter, our Ducheſſe de Noailles will not believe a word. *Matthieu eſt fripon naturellement; il en a bien la mine: Pardi! il a volé la moitié de mon eau-de-miel, il l'a donné à ſa religieuſe défroquée*, is the return for all my goodneſs to her. I think, I have done all well, in giving Madame Parabère † a ſhare, as from your command, eſpecially, ſince Madame de Torcy will give it to her in the manner ſhe may beſt like it. If you would have any thing bought for you, pray think of it

veau, et bonne juſtice ſe fera, tant en Eſpagne qu'en Portugal, à un chacun des particuliers qui auront quelque choſe à prétendre à ces égards.

"On conviendra du terme de quatre à cinque mois, pour la reſtitution d'Albuquerque, la Puebla, Hondar, la colonie du Sacrament, et de toutes autres places dont on pourroit s'être emparé de côté et d'autre, en aucune partie du monde, dans l'état où elles étoient au commencement de la guerre."

* Private. † This Lady was firſt favourite with the regent Duke of Orleans.

in time; and pray write to me, for I hear from nobody elſe, either as to the public or my own private affairs. I am ever, as I ought to be,

My dear Lord, yours,

MATT.

From Mr. Prior.

Amiciſſimo Domino de Bolingbroke.

MATTÆUS.

Paris, November 1ſt, 1713.

THE large letter that accompanies this, tells you, my dear Lord, in what manner I have obeyed your commands. As to our Lady Dowager *, you did not know her, I find, as I have done by twenty years' experience: ſhe takes care that the child ſhall not ſee me, carries him to-day into the country, under pretence of his health, to a houſe of the Abbé Gouvernet †. That bleſſed Proteſtant family too, on your ſide, did they not know of this hopeful expedition? You ſay right, that you imagine this Medea will give us all trouble; nothing can give more: ſhe cries and ſighs; but I know her ſighs to be wind, and her tears to be water. The little devil, her huſband, had once a knife in his hand, to go and kill her; what a puppy was I to hinder him! Adieu, my dear Lord, God keep us all from ſuch wives, and above all, from ſuch widows. I hear of myſelf from the Dutch Gazette only.

Adieu, your's ever,

MATT.

I am half afraid the Abbé ‡ has been tampering in this Jerſæan flight, and I have half accuſed him of it. If it be ſo, he ought to be

* Jerſey.

† Her intention was probably to bring up her ſon in the Roman Catholic religion.

‡ Probably Gaultier, who was her Confeſſor.

hanged;

hanged, I hope it is not ſo. Your Palma is found excellent, your health is drunk, and all is as it ought to be upon that head.

Monſieur de Torcy, and the Duke de Noailles, will write to you.

From Mr. Prior *.

MY DEAR LORD, N.B.

Paris, 2nd-13th November, 1713.

MONSIEUR de Torcy goes a little too far, when he ſays, her Majeſty was aſſured the Catalans would ſubmit, upon the terms mentioned in the letter; and this you will ſee by my letters to your Lordſhip upon the ſubject; it was he that urged, that as to the privileges they had pretended to, they were ſuch as could not reaſonably be aſked, or could poſſibly be granted; upon which, I ſaid, as your letter warranted me, that her Majeſty thought reaſonable accommodation might be made, and would concur with the Chriſtian King in that behalf; this is only a little obſervation of my own to your Lordſhip, for the thing ſtands, I believe, as you could deſire it.

The Politiconi dine with me, Meſnager, Iberville, Aniſon, Alsfielt, and the Duke of Richmond; I am preparing to receive them, as ſoon as I have told you, I am ever and inviolably your's,

MATT.

From Mr. Prior †.

Paris, 23rd November, 1713.

I FANCY I have not finiſhed my letter to the Secretary of State, till I have added a word to dear Lord Bolingbroke. I thought it of moment to haſten Mr. Iberville's departure, and have accordingly

* Private. † Private.

done ſo. Upon a new ſolicitation from Monſieur Calandrini, I have given a memorial from him to Monſieur Deſmarets, and have again enjoined Monſieur de Torcy, to repeat his good inſtances in his behalf, which he promiſed me to do to-morrow morning, Deſmarets being here. The Ducheſs of Portſmouth thinks ſhe is mightily beloved in England, not remembering that an Anachroniſm of forty years, makes a great difference as well in love as politics. She plagues my ſoul out about her coming into England, and I believe you will have your ſhare of her importunities by her proxy there.

Pray ſend me Barton, for meſſenger I have none. Where is General Roſs? When am I to come home? What ſort of thing is to become of me? I have a miniature Venus, in a plain box, making for you; if I thought there was a finer picture of the kind in the world, I would not ſend it to you; all that I deſire is, that you would not promiſe it to any body before you ſee it, two hours after you have received it, I take it for granted, it is gone. Adieu, my Lord; nobody loves you, or has ſo much reaſon to love you, as your friend,

MATT.

Lady Jerſey lets me ſee her but very ſlenderly. Jacob Tonſon is here, the dog is a kind of a convert; but can the leopard change his ſpots? He ſays the Duke of Marlborough will paſs the winter at Antwerp, ſeems very quiet, and mindful only of his health, once more,

My Lord, your ever.

To Mr. Prior.

SIR,

Windſor, December 2nd, 1713.

I CANNOT finiſh as a Secretary; I muſt always conclude my diſpatches to you as a friend. Let me thank you a thouſand times for the good-nature and concern, which you ſhow in Monſieur Calandrini's

drini's behalf; had you ſeen that family in the plenty, which I have known them enjoy, and which they made the moſt generous uſe of, you would be ſtill more touched with their misfortunes. For God's ſake, convince the Ducheſs of Portſmouth, as civilly as you can, that it is impoſſible ſhe ſhould be welcome here to any one creature; what can ſhe expect, when ſhe has the recollection of a thouſand invidious things to ſtruggle with, new favours to aſk, and no beauty to plead her cauſe?

I am obliged to you for the Venus before-hand; let the picture be as fine as poſſible, I ſhall value it chiefly as a mark of your affection. Be ſo good as to remember the commiſſions which I have given you in the letter, which Elcock carried; I cannot recollect the name of the author of the Travels, I deſire you to buy me, but Mr. Aniſon will tell it you. I hear he is to ſend or bring the book to Dr. Arbuthnot. I believe our three Commiſſaries will be Mr. Whitworth, Sir Joſeph Martyn, and Mr. Frederick Herne; but as the blank is not yet filled up, I could not mention their names in my other diſpatch, neither is it proper you ſhould to any one, till you hear again from me. We expect my Lord Treaſurer here to-morrow, the death of a favourite daughter *, has confined him ſeveral days. As ſoon as he comes, the Commiſſaries will, I imagine, be declared, and ſome other things, of which, God willing, at ſome other time. Monſieur de la Faye, who brought me a letter from Monſieur de Torcy, returns, I hear, in a very ſhort time to France. By him, I will write to our friend, on the ſubject of commerce, as, I believe, my Lord Treaſurer intends likewiſe to do. You ſhall be farther inſtructed on this head in two or three days. In the mean time, adieu. I am ever, &c.

B.

* The Marchioneſs of Caermarthen.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

My Lord,

Windsor Caſtle, December 3rd, 1713.

I CONFESS the latter part of your Grace's letter of the 23rd of November, which I received this morning, gave me much more concern than the former part of it. I am infinitely more troubled to hear that you are ill, than that Broderick is choſen. May your health be ſoon reſtored, and your Grace be ſoon at liberty to confirm it, by returning into Britain. The Queen, before whom I have laid your Grace's letter, and that which I received from Sir John Stanley, is not ſurprized at the events of the firſt day of the Seſſion.

It was to be expected that the Whigs would unite, when they found no temperament taken in the city diſpute; and it was almoſt beyond hope, that the Church party ſhould be able, without any diviſion or acquieſcence of the other, to prevail, eſpecially when Broderick had ſo much the ſtart in ſolicitation. To this conjuncture, therefore, the failure of the Crown's recommendation is to be aſcribed; and that conjuncture war begot, long before your Grace took the buſineſs of Ireland upon you.

To diſapprove a Speaker, is, indeed, the undoubted prerogative of the Crown, but her Majeſty ſeemed to be of your Grace's opinion, that the exerciſe of it, at this ſeaſon, might have been hurtful, and was not neceſſary. Such a ſtep would have united, in a ſteady oppoſition, all thoſe who voted againſt us in the election of a Speaker; many of whom, it is to be hoped, were only engaged in that one point, and will, on other occaſions, be influenced by your Grace.

I have, I think, the honour of your Grace's private letter of the 17th and 19th of laſt month, to acknowledge; your Grace will, I perſuade myſelf, eaſily believe that if I omitted to anſwer them punctually,

tually, it was purely to avoid giving you any unneceſſary trouble, when you had ſo much to do, and I nothing to ſay.

As to Dr. Friend *, I have known him long, and cannot be without ſome partiality for him, ſince he was of Chriſt Church. He has excellent parts, is a thorough ſcholar, and, I am told, is very able in his profeſſion. I am quite ignorant where he deſigns to reſide, or what he intends to do, not having theſe ſeveral months had any converſation with him, but I hear he is gone to attend your Grace. When I hear again that it is your Grace's pleaſure I ſhould do ſo, I will not fail to ſpeak to the Queen, in the manner you direct.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Sir John Stanley.

SIR,

Windſor Caſtle, December 3rd, 1713.

I RECEIVED this morning the favour of your letter, and am very glad that I had the good fortune to ſay any thing to encourage you to do what I moſt earneſtly deſire. It is pretty plain that our friends of the Church intereſt were the leſs inclined to come into any expedient, becauſe they depended on a majority in the Houſe of Commons; and, to ſay truth to you, though I have not owned ſo much to them, in my opinion they judged on that ſuppoſition right, ſince if the Parliament was to be of the ſame mind with the Council, no diſorder could happen from the continuance of the city diſpute.

It is, I think, as plain that the Whigs' reſpect to the Queen and her Lord Lieutenant ended in this, that they would have dropped their Speaker, if they could have compounded themſelves into a better

* The Phyſician.

thing.

thing. The former have, indeed, been out in their calculations, but I am not ſurprized at it, if what is writ me juſt now from London be true; it is ſaid confidently there, that nineteen officers voted againſt you. I hope I am not ill-natured, but I confeſs myſelf extremely tired of that lenity, which ſuffers a fleet and army to declare for a faction againſt the Crown, even where not ſo much as the trite pretence of conſcience, that mark of hypocriſy, can be advanced.

It was matter of ſatisfaction to the Queen, to obſerve, by your letter to me, that the conteſt was carried on with order and decency. Broderick's ſpeech made her laugh. Adieu, dear Sir John: haſten your Council's report, and believe me ever, inviolably, &c.

B.

P.S. I would not trouble my Lord Duke, in the midſt of much buſineſs and of bad health, with a private affair, which I muſt take the liberty of mentioning: Major-general Evans, who has as much merit as gallantry and honour can heap on a ſoldier, is gone to his poſt, aſhamed of having been an hour later in ſetting out than the date of his commiſſion. Young Hawley, his Lieutenant-colonel, had the misfortune to break his bones in fox-hunting with me; they were to go together, and I ventured to anſwer for Mr. Evans's delay.—Be ſo good as to ſhow him your countenance.

To Lady Newburg.

MADAM,

Windſor Caſtle, December 3rd, 1713.

I DELAYED until now anſwering the honour of your letter, from Cheſter, in hopes of an opportunity of ſerving you effectually, which I ſhould not have failed to improve, and might then have had the ſatisfaction to have told you that I had been uſeful to you. Do me

the

the juſtice to be perſuaded, that all the little credit I have ſhall moſt readily be employed to procure an augmentation of the penſion granted my Lord Bellew, which, I own to your Ladyſhip, I was extremely ſurprized to find fixed to ſo ſmall a ſum, and to ſo late a date; but as I have always ſpoke ſincerely and freely to you, give me leave to continue to do the ſame, and to tell you, that you are under the influence of the hardeſt planet that ever yet reigned, if a Lord-lieutenant of Ireland, a Lord-chamberlain, and, to ſay no more, a Duke of Shrewſbury, cannot prevail, in ſo compaſſionate a caſe, for ſo near a relation. His Grace is in Ireland, he ſees the circumſtances of your family, and is, by conſequence, an eye-witneſs both of your diſtreſs and of my Lord Bellew's zeal for the Queen's ſervice:—Can there be a more natural handle than this, for him to take hold of; and, either by letter now, or by perſonal application when he comes over, to aſk the Queen ſuch an addition as may render her Majeſty's bounty proportioned to your occaſions?

You will not, I perſuade myſelf, Madam, imagine that I have, in giving you this advice, the leaſt view of ſaving any expence of trouble or of intereſt. I am ready to take any part which you preſcribe, and will not be wanting to ſolicit your cauſe, but this method is what, in my conſcience, I think would ſucceed; and I am ſure if this does not, no other can. I attend the honour of your farther commands, and am, &c. B.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, December 8th, 1713.

ONE of your Majeſty's Meſſengers is this evening arrived from Paris, and has brought me a voluminous packet. Mr. Prior's letters are of the 14th of this month, N.S. He incloſes copies of the memorials

memorials which have paſſed between the Prince Eugene and the Mareſchal de Villars, at Raſtadt; Monſieur de Torcy gave them to him, by the King's order, but exacted a promiſe from him, that he ſhould communicate them to no perſon but me, and to me purely for your Majeſty's information. It is impoſſible, ſuch is the length of theſe papers, to give your Majeſty an account of them, article by article, in a letter. When I have the honour to attend on Friday, at Windſor, they ſhall be laid before your Majeſty.

In the mean time, I take leave to obſerve, that the Emperor ſeems to riſe in his demands as he decreaſes in ſtrength; to determine to ſacrifice to his paſſion thoſe unhappy Princes and States who lie on the frontier, and to juſtify France, as Mr. Prior expreſſes it, in ruining the Empire. The expreſſions of Prince Eugene are, in many places, rude; and the anſwers are very biting, though more civilly turned. France certainly wants and deſires a general peace; and the King, upon this occaſion, again repeats his promiſe, to take ſuch meaſures, as your Majeſty ſhall judge moſt conducive to that end.

I moſt earneſtly hope, that in the new Parliament, which we are now ſhortly to meet, ſuch an union will be created, and ſuch a ſpirit raiſed, in your Majeſty's ſervice, as may give you leiſure and ſtrength to influence foreign affairs, in that manner you have done, and always ought to do.

Monſieur d'Iberville the Envoy, appointed to reſide here, is to embark next Thurſday, at Calais. The Miniſters of France aſſure us, that he is impowered to facilitate, to your Majeſty's ſatisfaction, the treaty of the Commiſſaries of Trade.

I am in great hopes young Mr. Villars * will be ſaved from ruin, and got home again; Mr. Prior has acted very honeſtly, and vigorouſly in that affair.

* Lady Jerſey's Son.

Lord Lexington writes to me, on the 27th of November, that he ſhould ſet out that very day, on his journey homewards, by the way of Portugal. Your Majeſty's orders had been received at Gibraltar, and due care is taken for the obeying of them.

The incloſed came in Mr. Prior's packet, and was delivered by the Duke d'Aumont. I am not informed from whom the letter is.

I am, &c.

B.

To Sir John Stanley.

SIR,

Windſor-Caſtle, December 15th, 1713.

THOUGH with the letters of the 8th of this month from Dublin, I received none from you; the contents however, of thoſe, which I have ſeen, make it in ſome ſort neceſſary, that I ſhould give you the trouble of one from me. You will imagine very eaſily that the general account, which my Lord Duke's public diſpatch gives of the heats which broke out in council, on the occaſion of debating the judge's report, and the more particular accounts which come by private information, afford matter of much concern here. If the Council is divided, and if the diſputes are among them carried on with bitterneſs and paſſion, little room is left to hope that the ferments in Parliament, in the city, in the kingdom, will be allayed? On the contrary, all theſe muſt be increaſed.

It reſults very plainly from hence, that no time muſt be loſt, in making thoſe of one mind, by whoſe good or bad influence, Ireland will ſettle in peace, or run into deſtruction: this I take to be evident enough, and I] believe it is no leſs ſo, that if no compromiſe can be made in the Council, which we take to be the preſent caſe, either from the nature of the diſpute, or from the temper of the party, the weight

of the government on your ſide muſt go along with thoſe who are the friends of your friends on this ſide. For it would be a ſtrange abſurdity to have a Whig adminiſtration in Ireland, and a Tory adminiſtration in Britain.

When the meaſures for my Lord Duke's conduct were firſt concerted here, it was hoped that the unfortunate diſpute, about the Lord Mayor, might be ended, if not before the elections, at leaſt before the meeting of Parliament. This was a moſt deſirable end, and to this it would have been reaſonable to have ſacrificed ſomething, by falling on any expedient to gain time, without giving up either the cauſe, or the honour of the council. But the caſe is now become vaſtly different, from what it was then; the Parliament is now met, and the only conſideration, for which it would have been worth while to have compounded, ſubſiſts no longer; ſince a Speaker is choſe by the Whigs, in oppoſition to the Queen's recommendation, and they are determined to carry to the utmoſt length, the city diſpute.

It may, perhaps, be ſaid, that, notwithſtanding theſe incidents, the tenor of the Whig conduct, if they are gently dealt withall, will be right, and the public buſineſs of the nation diſpatched with unanimity.

The force of this argument, would, I confeſs, be conſiderable, were we to ſuppoſe the majority of Whigs ſo great in Parliament, and every where elſe, that they could prevail to make, and be juſtified in making, the public ſervice ſubſervient to their private party ſchemes. But we are willing to hope better things: We look on their majority to be ſo ſlight, that an open declaration of the Queen, or the united endeavours of her ſervants againſt them, would turn the ſcale, and ſecurely, though not ſmoothly, wind up the Seſſion. Every way, it ſeems we are to have a ſtruggle. It only remains to determine, whether, in this ſtruggle, we ſhall take part with our friends, and by theſe means ſecure both them and the Queen's ſervice from any danger; or whether we ſhall take part with our enemies, ſecure this ſucceſs, for

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fear they ſhould ſucceed, and leave ourſelves, our friends, and, above all, the Queen's ſervice, at their mercy?

I have writ thus freely and largely to you, becauſe, in a conjuncture ſo critical as the preſent, you cannot be too ſoon informed of the ſenſe of your fellow-ſervants, and, as I humbly preſume, of her Majeſty. My Lord Treaſurer tells me, that he does himſelf the honour to write to the Duke of Shrewſbury.

The Queen commands me to enquire of you, whether on the eſtabliſhment there is a Governor of Galway? I believe ſome application has been made to her, in behalf of Colonel Peyton; let me recommend to you, an officer of Nland's regiment, whoſe name is Naizor. After a thouſand hardſhips which he endured, the Queen gave him a troop. He ſhould have been, in juſtice, at this time a Major; let no other come over his head; his ſtory would move your compaſſion.

It is time to aſk your pardon for ſo tedious a letter, and to aſſure you, that I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, December 17th, 1713.

I HAVE this morning ſeen Monſieur d'Iberville, the Envoy of France, who profeſſes to have the beſt diſpoſition, and to be inſtructed, as far as poſſible, to facilitate the concluſion of what relates to commerce.

He aſked an audience, and I promiſed to inform him of your Majeſty's pleaſure.

I humbly ſubmit, whether it might not be proper to ſee him on the

firſt occaſion? he has, I perceive, beſides his public letter, a private one from the King to your Majeſty.

I have a letter from Prior, of the 18th, N.S. which contains no one thing, worth your Majeſty's attention; he had not then received the letters which were diſpatched from Windſor, the 3rd, O.S. but I reckon they came to his hands the ſame day, or the day after, it was writ, your Majeſty's meſſenger having paſſed through Boulogne early on Monday was ſeven-night.

This moment the poſt brings me letters from Ireland, of the 10th and 11th; the Duke of Shrewſbury's are of the former date; the bill of ſupply had been read once *, and was ordered a ſecond reading. It was expected that the Whigs would bring the diſpute, about the choice of the Mayor of Dublin, into Parliament, and my Lord Lieutenant ſeems at a loſs how to conduct himſelf in this caſe.

His Grace deſires that your Majeſty's letter, for paſſing the licence to the convocation to do buſineſs, may likewiſe be ſent; I had prepared none, Mr. Attorney having, while the Duke was here, repreſented that none was neceſſary; I will now take care to get it ready in due form, and to bring it with me to Windſor.

My Lord Chancellor of Ireland, writes to me, on the 11th, and gives me an account of the tranſactions of that day, in the Houſe of Commons, with relation to himſelf. There is a cuſtom, it ſeems, at Dublin, that the Lords Juſtices give leave to players or muſicians, upon their applications, when they have benefit days for their private advantage, to inſert in their bills, that the play is acted, or the muſic performed, by their order.

This little encouragement, which was never refuſed, was granted about ſix months ago, by my Lord Chancellor, to a very fine trumpet, who went over thither. Afterwards, his Lordſhip was informed, that

* The Whigs there had declared they would vote no money.

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the fellow had formerly turned Papiſt, upon which, knowing the malice of the faction, my Lord ſent to the Chief Juſtice to examine the man, and to deal with him according to law. Your Majeſty will hardly think this a foundation for a Parliamentary proceeding, and yet the moderation of the Whigs endeavoured to make it one.

They begun by mentioning the great danger they were in, of the Pretender's landing, and ordered heads of a bill to be brought in, to offer a great reward to any perſon, that ſhould bring him, dead or alive. After which, Colonel Southwell moved, that my Lord Chancellor ſhould be declared an encourager of Popery, and a friend to the Pretender; this motion was ſupported with ſo much heat, that they were near drawing ſwords in the Houſe: at laſt, Southwell deſired leave to withdraw his motion, which was granted. But ſurely in juſtice to the Chancellor, and above all in duty to your Majeſty, whoſe ſeal he has the honour to bear, the matter ſhould not have been ſuffered to go off thus; the Tories however acquieſced.

Your Majeſty will judge, from this example, what this ſet of men may be capable of undertaking, as ſoon as they have ſuch a majority as they can depend upon. At preſent, indeed, they are the greater number but by a few, and many of this number are dependent on your Majeſty immediately; but they are haſtening to garble the Houſe, and ſince the election of the Speaker, at leaſt thirty new petitions, againſt Churchmen, have been preferred, which were not thought of before. I ſubmit, with that humble deference which becomes me, but a warm and unfeigned zeal for your Majeſty's ſafety, whether it is not time for the weight to be thrown into the honeſt and loyal ſcale. I will only preſume to add, that the event of theſe things in Ireland, will have either a very good or a very bad effect in our Parliament, whenever that ſhall meet.

I have letters of the 4th of December, from Madrid; my Lord

Lexington.

Lexington ſet out the 28th of November, and before his departure, writ to the people of Barcelona, to conjure them to ſubmit, and to offer them ſtill, notwithſtanding their reſiſtance and obſtinacy, the terms ſettled at Utrecht for them: this, my Lord was empowered by the King of Spain to do, to whom the King of France had writ, as he promiſed your Majeſty he would. God knows, whether your Majeſty will be able to overcome evil with good, but more cannot be done, and none but your Majeſty would have had the charity to have done ſo much.

The orders have been given, as your Majeſty was pleaſed ſome time ago to direct me, to inſtruct my Lord Lexington to obtain them, concerning Gibraltar, ſo that I hope that garriſon will be for the future eaſy.

I have ſat this morning with the Board of Trade, and I hope, I have ſo ſettled every thing with them, as will leave my Lords of the Council little to do when they meet to-morrow, on the head of the French treaty of trade.

I have ſent my Iriſh letters to my Lord Treaſurer, that he may have the more time to turn thoſe matters in his thoughts, and be the better prepared to offer his humble advice to your Majeſty upon them.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

Verſailles, le 14me Décembre, 1713.

SI je ne ſavois, my Lord, à quel point Monſieur d'Iberville ſouhaite de vous plaire, & de mériter l'honneur de votre eſtime, je ne prendrois pas la liberté de vous demander pour lui, l'effet de vos bontés, dont il veut certainement ſe rendre digne. J'oſe en répondre pour lui, & parmi beaucoup de bonnes qualités, qui ont déterminé le choix du Roi en ſa

faveur,

faveur, la principale pour moi, eſt le reſpect qu'il a pour vous, my Lord, fondé ſur ce qu'il a connu par lui-même & ſur ce qu'il a ſu d'ailleurs. J'ai eu ſouvent le plaiſir d'en parler avec lui, & j'ai compté lorſque ſa Majeſté l'a choiſi, qu'il me donneroit ſouvent de vos nouvelles. Il n'y en a point que je deſire avec plus d'empreſſement, principalement ſi j'apprends, comme je l'eſpère, que vous me conſerverez toujours quelque part dans l'honneur de votre amitié. Vous ſavez, my Lord, combien elle m'eſt précieuſe, & je vous ſupplie de croire que perſonne ne ſauroit être avec un attachement plus véritable & plus ſincère que je ſuis, votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

MONSIEUR,

Du Château de Windſor, ce 29me Décembre, 1713.

IL ne ſeroit pas juſte de laiſſer partir Monſieur de la Faye, ſans le charger des remercîmens très humbles, que j'ai à vous faire, de ce que vous m'avez donné l'occaſion de connoître un auſſi honnête homme.

Je me flatte, qu'il n'eſt pas tout-à-fait mécontent de moi; ce qu'il y a de ſûr, c'eſt que je me ſuis ſéparé de lui avec un très ſenſible regret. Il vous rendra compte de l'audience, qu'il a eu de la Reine, de ce que ſa Majeſté lui a dit, & de ce que j'ai lui expliqué par ſon ordre. Ainſi, vous voulez bien, Monſieur, que je me remets à ce qu'il aura l'honneur de vous raconter de bouche. Je me bornerai à vous dire que les affaires de commerce, ſe finiſſant heureuſement, en peut répondre que les diſpoſitions, dans ce pays, ſeront telles que vous les ſouhaitez, & que la Reine ſe trouvera par-là en état de prendre de meſures vigoureuſes pour concourir avec le Roi à vaincre l'opiniâtreté des Impériaux, & autres ennemis du repos de l'Europe. Je ſuis, &c. B.

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, December 22nd, 1713.

I HAVE before me, your Lordſhip's letters of the 3rd and 11th of this month, to acknowledge; of which the laſt is to me, and was to the Queen, to whom I took the liberty to read every line of it, moſt ſurprizing.

When the Duke of Shrewſbury went from home, we were very little informed of the true ſtate of the affairs in Ireland; and on the other hand we were hard preſſed in point of time; it is therefore no wonder if her Majeſty's Councils ran into any expedient, which, ſaving the cauſe, and ſaving the honour of her government, might get over the Seſſion, and give a year's time to turn ourſelves as to the diſpute in the city of Dublin.

Little did we imagine that the Lord Mayor might legally hold over.

Had you ſent us at firſt (allow this friendly reproach) what you ſent us at laſt, the firſt report of Mr. Attorney-General had never been made; and you would have been ſolicited to come into no expedient which might be the leaſt diſagreeable to you.

I mention this the rather, becauſe I hope your Lordſhip, and the reſt of our friends in Ireland, will for the future ſuffer no information, neceſſary for the Queen's ſervice, and the good of the Tory cauſe, to be wanting in time. Do your part, and you may be aſſured that, on this ſide of the water; there are a number of men, who never did, nor never will bow the knee to Baal, and who will ſupport the Church intereſt at the expence of every thing that is dear to men.

By expreſs laſt night, I gave my Lord Lieutenant notice, that her Majeſty had reſolved to make the Biſhop of Raphoe Primate *, and

* Archbiſhop of Armagh, Dr. Thomas Lindſay.

by

by this packet I have the pleaſure to ſend the Queen's letter in due form.

On Monday or Tueſday, I hope to tranſmit orders concerning the biſhoprics vacant, which will be equally acceptable; and I may venture to aſſure you, without any riſque of forfeiting my reputation, that the Queen will go on in this ſtyle, and fairly try the event to the laſt extremities, whether ſhe, at the head of the loyal party, cannot overcome the factious Whigs of Ireland; when I ſay the factious Whigs, I mean, the whole party without any exception, but of thoſe who are pleaſed, by their conduct, to except themſelves.

I ſhould not uſe theſe expreſſions, nor write in this manner, to your Lordſhip, upon ſlight grounds. Things are come to a criſis in both kingdoms, and I am verily perſuaded they will take a better turn, than you or I ever expected. The evil of Ireland will be productive of good to both nations.

What is done for your ſon, is ſo little equal to the merits of his father, that I dare hardly make my compliments to your Lordſhip upon it; neither ſhould I, had not I been informed that it is what your Lordſhip yourſelf deſired.

I beg your Lordſhip to look on me, as one who has a true value for your courage, integrity, and capacity, and who will upon all occaſions ſhow himſelf, my Lord, your Lordſhip's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, December 22nd, 1713.

I AM aſhamed of giving your Majeſty theſe frequent troubles, but the preſſing occaſions of the ſervice, will, I hope, plead my excuſe.

The incloſed warrant, which I received from the Treaſurer, and which

is to be counterſigned by my Lord High Treaſurer, requires the utmoſt diſpatch, there being but two days of the time preſcribed remaining.

I am, Madam, your Majeſty's, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, December 22d, 1713.

AS much in haſte as I was yeſterday, I think, on looking over your Grace's public letter of the 8th, that all the points, which required her Majeſty's orders, are anſwered; it therefore only remains, that I ſhould acknowledge the honour of your private letter of the 12th.

The Queen, my Lord, did indeed not judge the meaſure propoſed of diſapproving Broderick, obnoxious as he is, and ought to be, to every good man's ſight. But could her Majeſty have foreſeen, what has ſince happened, I am apt to think this, or even a more violent meaſure, would have appeared to her but an adequate remedy to the diſeaſe. The Whig party have a majority, and, if they are ſuffered to go on, will ſit, I ſuppoſe, alone in the Houſe; they may perhaps give the ſupply, and utter general expreſſions of duty and zeal for her Majeſty, but the particular perſons, againſt whom their reſentments are to be ſhown, cannot be expoſed to their rage, in honour, in juſtice, in prudence. I will only ſay, upon this occaſion, that your Grace's friends here are all perſuaded that all the money which the Iriſh Houſe of Commons is aſked to give, is not to be put into competition with the ſafety of one of our friends, much leſs with that of our whole body, and yet our whole body is at ſtake in the preſent conteſt. Should that faction riſe and prevail in Ireland, againſt which we have done ſo much in Britain, the conſequence in both places is obvious. Should the farther ſupply,

after

after the three months' bill, not paſs, I would not call it a misfortune. There are ways of ſupplying this deficiency, and among others, I dare affirm, that the Commons of Britain would be thankful to her Majeſty, if ſhe rendered it neceſſary for them to do it. It had been happy if your Grace, at your firſt going over, could have tempered matters ſo as to have ſuſpended the diſpute about the Lord Mayor for this Seſſion, but it had been more happy, if we had then known what we now authentically know, that the Mayor's holding over is legal.

In a word, on one hand, there is the ſupply, on the other (and that ſeems the only compoſition which the Whigs are ready to come into) there is ſacrificing our friends in Ireland, who are the weakeſt; irreconcilably and juſtly provoking our friends in Britain, who, God be praiſed! are the ſtrongeſt. The proceedings of the Whigs have, I make no doubt, prepared your Grace to expect that the Queen will take more vigorous meaſures; and ſhow her inclinations faſter than ſhe firſt intended. She therefore has ſigned the uſual letter for tranſlating the Biſhop of Rephoe to the Archbiſhopric of Armagh, and will I believe, as to the other Biſhoprics, ſignify her pleaſure in very few days. It will be happy, if theſe admonitions ſerve to remind ſome people of their duty, and enable your Grace to prevail on them not to provoke clemency too far. Should theſe fail, I hope, and I believe, the Queen will go every other length neceſſary to reſtrain the paſſion and fury of ſuch proceedings, as the Commons have given, and ſhow a farther deſign of giving into. You, my Lord, agreeably to the mildneſs of the Queen we ſerve, and to the goodneſs of your own nature, have endeavoured by gentle treatment to reconcile, and by reaſon to perſuade. After this, when this has proved vain, why ſhould the government and the whole church-party, be afraid to charge a faction created by chance, preſerved by our iniquities, and fattened by our misfortunes. The digreſſion, as your Grace is pleaſed to call it, concerning your health was moſt accept-

able news to me, who always profeſſed myſelf, ſince I had firſt the honour of being admitted to your acquaintance, and who will, at all times, and on every occaſion, demonſtrate, that I am, ſincerely and reſpectfully, my Lord, &c.

B.

To Sir John Stanley.

SIR,

Whitehall, December 22d, 1713.

THE only letter of yours, which I have before me to acknowledge, is that of the 10th, a day which has remarkably ſhown, by the treatment which one of the foremoſt of the Queen's ſervants met with, how fruitleſs of good effects all moderation, and how neceſſary ſome rough handling are become. I am not ſurprized, that the Houſe of Commons ſits day and night to determine elections; their majority I mean. That of the Whigs could not be at firſt conſiderable, ſince it is certain that there are at leaſt 143 ſtaunch churchmen elected; but I make no doubt of the care which will be taken to remedy this defect, and to garble the Houſe into unanimity. As ſenſible as ſome people are of their ſtrength, and as able as their managers are, it is ſtill in my Lord Lieutenant's power, backed by the Queen's whole authority, and by the might of a Britiſh Parliament, for this too may, I think, without preſumption, be affirmed, to prove too ſtrong and too able for them. I ſhould be glad to ſee the ſupply given, if it is not, the Queen's affairs are not without reſource.

I am, ever your's, &c.

B.

To

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, December 23d, 1713.

I HAVE got the bill upon the warrant which your Majeſty was pleaſed yeſterday to ſign. I humbly beg your Majeſty's diſpatch of it, and that it may paſs by immediate warrant, in which caſe, the ſervice will not ſuffer by delay. As the firſt notice did not come to me till yeſterday morning, I could not forward it faſter. The Committee of Council ſits this morning, and I have appointed the Miniſters of France and of Sicily, to be with me in the evening, ſo that I hope to conclude to-day, all the buſineſs which could not be done at Windſor, and to return to my attendance on your Majeſty to-morrow.

I am, &c.

To Mr. Whitworth.

SIR,

Whitehall, December 23d, 1713.

YOU will have been informed by this time, that you are firſt in the Commiſſion, as you deſired, and as I think, and always did think it reaſonable and expedient for the ſervice. My laſt letters from France, give me reaſon to believe, that the Commiſſaries of France, will very ſoon arrive here. Let me therefore intreat you, not only to turn in your own thoughts every thing which relates to the important buſineſs you are to tranſact, but let me likewiſe beg that you would call on your brethren, and have ſome few meetings with them, that ſo when the French do arrive, we may be ready to treat and to clear thoſe ambiguities, which faction at home has caſt over the treaty

of

of Commerce, and which running abroad may perhaps be willing to take advantage of. I have ordered the papers, which were delivered by the Commiſſioners of Trade, to my Lords of the Council laſt week, to be put into your hands. When I come next from Windſor, whither I go to-morrow early, I will take care to have the place of your meeting, and other neceſſary forms ſettled. I am, &c. B.

To Mr. Murray *.

SIR,

Whitehall, December 23d, 1713.

I SHOULD have thanked you ſooner for the favour of your's, which was in the ſtyle I expected from your good temper and good ſenſe. I have always obſerved, that want of birth and want of underſtanding render men moſt punctilious; thoſe who have both, know that their eſteem in the world, is built on a better foundation than form.

I ſhall be ſome days out of town, but I hope, that you and your brethren, will have ſome converſations together on the buſineſs you are to tranſact, which is certainly, as the Queen herſelf told you, of the utmoſt importance. Mr. Whitworth has in his hands, the papers prepared by the Board of Trade. I am, &c. B.

To Sir Joſeph Martin.

SIR,

Whitehall, December 23d, 1713.

BEING to go to Windſor, to-morrow, where I ſhall continue ſeveral days, I take this way of deſiring you to think yourſelf, and to concert with your brethren about the manner of treating with the French Commiſſaries, who may be ſuddenly expected here.

* Another of the Commiſſaries.

The moment I return to town, your Secretary, your place of meeting, and other matters of form, ſhall be ſettled, to your ſatisfaction.

Mr. Whitworth has in his hands, what my Lords of Trade have prepared for your inſtruction. I am, Sir, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Mr. Frederick Herne.

SIR,

Whitehall, December 23d, 1713.

SINCE my ſudden return from hence to Windſor, hinders me from ſeeing you, allow me by letter to acquaint you, that the French Commiſſary may be ſoon expected here.

Mr. Whitworth has in his hands ſuch papers as my Lord Commiſſioners of Trade have prepared towards your inſtructions, and I believe, you will think, that ſome hours will be well ſpent in meeting with your brethren, to conſider of them, and of ſuch other matters as may occur to you, for the better carrying on of the important work.

As ſoon as I come back to town, I will take care to fix your Secretary, your place, of meeting, and ſuch other forms. I am, Sir, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From Mr. Prior *.

Henrico optimo ſalutem.

Paris, Chriſtmas-Day, 1713.

I WILL be ſure to perform your commiſſions, my Lord, and do every thing you command me. Our Dowager Jerſey, refuſes to ſee me or mine; but the boy is a good Proteſtant, and reſolved to tell Monſieur

* Private.

de

de Torcy ſo. The Ducheſs of Portſmouth continues to have a great inclination to pay you a viſit in England; I have, and ſhall diſſuade her as much as I can. Pray ſend Barton, though you may have no great buſineſs, for I have no meſſenger with me, and it may very well happen I may have a ſudden occaſion of diſpatching one to you.

I am, &c.

M. Prior.

I think you may count upon it, that the peace will be made. I cannot ſend your Venus till next return of the meſſenger.

For God's ſake, make an end about theſe d—— ſluices *; let Dick Shelton ſee you ſometimes, the poor devil's heart is broke; *cunctando* is a ſad device, by Monk's leave. Adieu, my dear Lord.

Every body takes notice that I have no Chaplain, and I do not know if I am to ſtay here, in caſe I had one, till we came to the ſecond leſſon.

From Mr. Prior †.

Henrico Colendiſſimo. Mattæus.

Paris, January 5th, 1714.

I AM very glad to tell you in the incloſed, that the 50 or now 70 ſols is taken off, as your commands intimated. What I ſpeak of but a little covertly is, that when I came to repeat to Monſieur Deſmarets, what we had proviſionally agreed, and I have already writ you word, he went off, ſaid he only meant that in caſe within a month the notification was given from this ſide, we ſhould at the ſame time, take off the *droit* on ours: upon this I was (as Gaultier uſed to call it) *ſur ma chanterelle*, and took upon me to ſay, as I believe you, my dear Lord,

* At Dunkirk. † Private.

would

would have done, on the like occaſion: that I looked upon myſelf to be very ill uſed by this proceeding, that I would vindicate my own veracity and honour, and be juſtified not only in England, but in France: that I would deſire an audience of the King, and tell him the fact as it ſtood: in ſhort, every thing grew better, the thing is done, and I promiſed not to write of it. I do it therefore only to yourſelf, and in caſe Iberville ſhould ſpeak of it to you; though poſſibly he may not, probably he may not; for not to exaggerate, is it not ſhameful on Deſmarets' ſide? ſo ſhameful as that he, nor any of his, will mention to Iberville: ſo let it reſt.

I have already told you, that Monſieur de Torcy has promiſed to viſit Lady Jerſey, and judge equitably, as he ſhall find Harry Villars inclined. Her conduct is very extraordinary; ſhe will not let the child ſee me, Drift, or any that belong to me. Gaultier has writ very honeſtly to Monſieur de Torcy, on her ſubject.

I hope you will like your Venus, ſince ſhe has met with great approbation here. Pray ſend me back Jonathan, and let me always have a meſſenger on this ſide. I am moſt truly, and inviolably, yours.

How long I ſhall ſtay here, I can no more tell, than, had I a fever, when I ſhould be well. Adieu. Pray write a word to Harry Villars, and I will find means to let him have it; you do not imagine how much a letter would ſpirit and encourage the child. As ſoon as Monſieur Deſmarets and I were ſo mighty good friends again, I ſpoke to him again, in favour of Monſieur Calandrini. He again promiſes that he will do all in his power for the poor gentleman.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, December 31ſt, 1713.

I HAVE juſt diſpatched by a flying packet, the report of your Majeſty's Council to Ireland, and have directed the Poſt-maſter to take care that a boat go off with my letters as ſoon as they arrive at the coaſt.

I find there muſt be a letter ſigned by your Majeſty, for making your Primate: I have incloſed one in the uſual form, which if it be your Majeſty's pleaſure to return it me by this meſſenger, ſhall be ſent to-morrow night. In the mean while, I have let the Duke of Shrewſbury know your Majeſty's intentions, which in the preſent poſture of affairs cannot be known too ſoon. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Mr. Henry Villars.

DEAR KINSMAN,

Windſor Caſtle, December 31ſt, 1713.

THE very dangerous ſituation in which you are at preſent, the relation I have to you, and the ſincere love I have for you, conſtrain me to write this letter, which, I hope, will come ſafe to your hands. Your preſent, your future, your eternal happineſs or miſery depend on the reſolution which you will now take. If you continue any longer with your mother, you muſt bid adieu to your family, to your friends, to your country, and to your religion. You muſt forfeit all that is dear, and renounce all that is ſacred: for whatever ſhe may pretend to make you, her true deſign is to make you a Papiſt.

If, on the other hand, you have virtue and grace enough, as I perſuade myſelf

myſelf you have, to know that as you owe ſomething to your mother, ſo you owe ſomething to yourſelf, and infinitely more than both to God; you will find the way of ſaving yourſelf eaſy, and will, in ſuch manner as Mr. Prior ſhall direct, eſcape to his houſe, from whence care will be immediately taken to bring you home. Mr. Prior has the Queen's orders to this effect.

The Queen, who looks on you in great meaſure as her child, expects this from you, and all your relations and friends join in conjuring you to return to them. For my own part, I long from the bottom of my ſoul to ſee you again here; and do aſſure you, you ſhall ever find a kinſman, a friend, a father, in your moſt affectionate, and moſt faithful couſin and ſervant, B.

To the Duke of Shrewſbury.

My Lord,

Windſor Caſtle, January 5th, 1713.

I HAVE now been confined to this place a fortnight, whilſt the reſt of the Queen's ſervants have, for the moſt part, been at London; ſo that I have not had ſo much opportunity of talking with my Lord Treaſurer, my Lord Chancellor, and others, on the preſent diſtracted ſtate of Iriſh affairs, as I could wiſh; neither, during this whole time, has it been poſſible to trouble the Queen, with any buſineſs, except ſuch as demanded her immediate diſpatch. Her Majeſty, God be praiſed! is and has been ever ſince the ſecond fit, entirely free from the leaſt feeling of her fever; but this diſtemper diſcharges itſelf, as the phyſicians imagined it would, and wiſhed it might, in a ſtrong fit of the gout.

It is certain, that, when your Grace went to Ireland, we were (at leaſt I am ſure, I was very much) ſtrangers to the true ſtate of Iriſh affairs;

our friends having been ſo faulty to themſelves, as never yet to ſupport their own cauſe early, and in time.

In this ſituation of doubt, it was the opinion of all the Queen's ſervants, that the diſpute ſhould be compounded, if that might poſſibly be done, before the ſitting of the Parliament; and in ſuch manner as to ſave the honour of the Council, and of the proceeding of government; and that ſome expedient of this kind, which your Grace did all in your power to promote, had been fallen upon, I dare ſay every man in the Queen's Councils ſtill wiſhes. But, alas! my Lord, as our own friends were in hopes of a majority, and therefore tenacious, ſo the Whigs, for ought I could ever ſee, were determined not to ſubmit, unleſs at too dear a rate.

Having Broderick for Speaker, garbling the Houſe of Commons, and attempting to garble the ſtate, theſe diſpoſitions and theſe proceedings, had left the Queen no middle path to tread, unleſs ſhe could reſolve to give up her ſervants, in both kingdoms, tied and bound, into the hands of their inveterate enemies, and to revert back to that ſtate of thraldom, from whence your Grace was a principal inſtrument of her deliverance.

I aſſure your Grace, with much ſincerity, that I am, as your faithful ſervant ought to be, extremely touched with the deſcription you are pleaſed to give of your own ſituation. But as it will be impoſſible for me yet to make a ſtep towards obeying the commands you lay upon me, I am willing to hope I may receive other orders from you.

The plain indications, which her Majeſty has given of her intentions, may perhaps operate during this receſs of Parliament; your Grace has done all which could be done by mildneſs to gain. You may therefore, with greater juſtice and more efficacy, purſue a contrary method, and put yourſelf at the head of a conteſt, where the Queen and her two houſes of Parliament, in Britain, with the Lords of Ireland, engage againſt a factious majority of the Commons of the latter kingdom. I have juſt

now orders to go upon ſome buſineſs to London, from whence, or immediately on my return hither, your Grace ſhall again hear from, my Lord, your Grace's, &c. B.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Windſor Caſtle, January 5th, 1713-14.

MY brother*, the Dean of St. Patrick's, is, you know, an hiſtorian, and has brought forth from folios down to duodecimos. We have often talked him up to an undertaking, which it is ſome degree of ſhame to our nation was never yet performed as it ought to be, and which I believe he is fitter for than any man in the Queen's dominions, I mean the writing a complete hiſtory of our own country. Rhymer's death creates an opportunity of making this his duty, if your Grace will be ſo good as to beſtow the place of Hiſtoriographer upon him †.

I ſubmit this to your Grace's good pleaſure, aſſuring you that in the propoſition which I preſume to make, I have the public much more in view than Jonathan. I am, &c. B.

To Sir John Stanley.

SIR,

Whitehall, January 5th, 1713-14.

THOUGH I have not time to give ſo particular an anſwer to your letter of the 22d of laſt month as the matter of it deſerves, I muſt not, however, let the poſt go away without my thanks,

* Swift was a member of the club of Brothers.

† This place, however, was given away to another perſon: the Miniſters were now diſunited. Oxford was loſing ground, which Bolingbroke was gaining, in the Queen's favour; and Shrewſbury, honeſt and independant, was diſguſted with both.

for

for the kind and full communication which you are pleaſed to give me. I make no doubt but the Whigs profeſſed all you mention, and are glad of the pretence, thin as it is, which they now excuſe themſelves by; their drift, however, and the ſum of their policy, is eaſily diſcovered.

You will give me leave to ſay, that I ſee no accident which happened to Mr. Moleſworth, but a very diſagreeable one to the clergy*. Captain Killegrew, of Wade's regiment, is very much out of order; and, as I know his caſe, I took upon me to ſay, I was confident my Lord Duke would believe me, when I aſſured him, that it would be cruel to oblige the young fellow for ſome time to go over, which, I hear, his Colonel inſiſts upon: let me beg you to procure my Lord Duke's licence for him. I am, &c. B.

A Monſieur le Comte de Montijo.

De Whitehall, ce 14me Janvier, 1713-14.

MES lettres ne ſont pas d'une grand prix; je regrette pourtant beaucoup la perte de quelques unes de celles, que je me ſuis donné l'honneur, mon cher Comte, de vous écrire, puiſque je ne puis ſouffrir que vous ayez le moindre ſoupçon, que la diſtance de tems ou de lieu ſoit capable de cauſer aucune altération dans une amitié ſincère & tendre, que je vous ai juré, & que je conſerverai avec plus de ſoin que ma propre vie: les liens de cette amitié m'attachent ſi étroitement à vous, que votre bonne & votre mauvaiſe fortune régleront, par une néceſſité abſolue, le bonheur & le malheur de mon ſort. Jugez donc, par cette règle, s'il vous plaît, de la joie que j'ai reſſenti quand j'ai ſu

* When the two Houſes of Convocation went to the Caſtle of Dublin, to preſent their addreſs to the Lord Lieutenant, Mr. Moleſworth made uſe of ſome inſulting expreſſions, for which he loſt his ſeat in the Privy Council.

la

la diſtinction, que le Roi Catholique vient de faire de votre mérite, en vous donnant la Toiſon. Cette grâce vous peut attirer des envieux ; & j'eſpère que leur nombre s'augmentera, parce que j'eſpère que le Roi vous renouvellera des marques de ſa bonté. On dit que l'envie n'eſt domptée qu'après la mort : cela peut être en général vrai ; mais la manière la plus ſûre ou de la dompter, ou de rendre ſes attaques vaines & infructueuſes, eſt de juſtifier les faveurs de ſon Prince par le brillant de ſes vertus, & par le mérite de ſes ſervices. Voilà, mon cher Comte, ce qui ne vous ſera pas difficile, puiſque Dieu vous a donné tous les talens néceſſaires pour réuſſir, & toute l'inclination de les bien employer.

La Princeſſe des Urſins vous dira peut-être ce que je lui ai écrit ſur ce chapitre ; je l'aurois fait même ſi vous n'en euſſiez rien dit ; mais je dois, une bonne fois pour toutes, exiger de vous que vous ne preniez plus la peine d'accompagner vos ordres de vos excuſes. Cette cérémonie ne convient aucunement au caractère d'ami ; & de plus, les excuſes ne ſont jamais de ſaiſon que lorſqu'il s'agit de quelque choſe de déſagréable, & vous ſavez qu'il n'y a rien au monde qui me puiſſe être ſi agréable que les occaſions de vous rendre ſervice.

Monſieur de Bingley, que vous avez connu ici, ſous le nom de Benſon, Chancelier des Finances, ſe prépare en toute diligence pour ſon ambaſſade d'Eſpagne. C'eſt un des meilleurs ſujets que nous ayons, c'eſt mon ami intime ; pour tel je vous le donne, & pour tel je vous prie de le recevoir.

Adieu, mon aimable Comte, je ſuis & ſerai toujours, avec un attachment inviolable, votre, &c. B.

A Ma-

A Madame la Princeſſe des Urſins.

De Whitehall, ce 14me Janvier, 1713-14.

VOTRE Alteſſe me permettra de lui rendre mes très humbles grâces, de l'attention qu'elle a eu pour les intérêts du Comte de Lecheraine que j'ai pris la liberté de lui récommander; je crains d'être importun, mais je crains plus d'être ingrat, & il n'eſt pas permis de ſe voir comblé de bonté, & de ne point marquer ſa reconnoiſſance. La mienne eſt très ſincère & très vive; & votre Alteſſe pourra dans toutes les occaſions, diſpoſer de moi d'un ſerviteur qui lui eſt acquis ſans réſerve.

La lettre que votre Alteſſe m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, le 22me Septembre, dans l'envelope de laquelle étoit la réponſe de ſa Majeſté la Reine d'Eſpagne, à celle que lui avoit écrit la Reine ma maîtreſſe, n'eſt arrivée ici, je ne ſais par quel accident, que depuis fort peu de tems. Nous ſavions déjà l'heureux accouchement de la Reine, & cette nouvelle nous avoit rempli de joie. La triſteſſe a ſuivi cette joie de près, ſelon le cours ordinaire des affaires de ce monde; car dans le milieu d'une ſanté parfaite, & quand nous nous attendions le moins à un coup comme celui-là, nous nous vimes à la veille de perdre la meilleure Princeſſe que ces royaumes ont jamais connu. En effet la Reine fut attaquée d'une fiévre violente, dont le premier accès lui dura plus de trente heures. Sa Majeſté n'en a eu, heureuſement pour nous, &, j'oſe dire, pour le reſte de l'Europe, que deux, & depuis ce tems la fiévre s'eſt terminé par la goûte, maladie pénible à la verité, mais qui n'eſt point dangereuſe, & que les médecins avoient tous ſouhaité.

Monſieur Lawleſs, qui ſent bien ce qu'il doit à votre Alteſſe, & qui veille à ſes intérêts avec toute l'attention & toute la vivacité poſſible, m'a fait part de ce qui s'eſt paſſé dernièrement à la Haye, au ſujet de la ſouveraineté. Je n'ai pas manqué de mettre l'affaire devant le Con-

ſeil, & les ordres de la Reine ſont donnés à Monſieur le Comte de Strafford, qui partira pour la Hollande au premier jour, de la manière que votre Alteſſe auroit pu elle-même deſirer. Comme il y a apparence, que les Etats-Généraux ont pris cette réſolution, ſur les avis qu'ils avoient reçus de Raſtadt, Monſieur Prior, Miniſtre de la Reine à la Cour de France, eſt inſtruit de faire des inſtances, afin que rien ne paſſe dans les négociations pour la paix de l'Empereur, qui puiſſe porter préjudice aux prétenſions de votre Alteſſe.

Il faut eſpérer que d'un côté, le Roi Très Chrétien ſoutiendra hautement un article, que ſa Majeſté Catholique a tant à cœur, & que de l'autre, Meſſieurs les Etats réfléchiront, que leur barrière ne dépend pas moins de l'appui de la Reine, que du conſentement de l'Empereur. Ce qu'il y a de ſûr, c'eſt que la Reine ne ſe départira pas des engagemens, qu'elle a bien voulu prendre avec le Roi Catholique, à cet égard.

Je ne puis point me réſoudre à finir cette lettre ſans témoigner à votre Alteſſe le plaiſir extrême, avec lequel j'ai appris que le Roi d'Eſpagne a fait l'honneur au Comte de Montijo, de lui donner la Toiſon. Ce jeune Seigneur me paroît, par une lettre qu'il m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, pénétré de toute la réconnoiſſance qu'il doit à une protectrice auſſi puiſſante que votre Alteſſe. Je ſuis, Madame, &c.

B.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

My Lord,

Whitehall, January, 19th, 1713-14.

I HAVE before me, your Grace's private letters, of the 2nd, 5th, and 7th of this month, for all which, I return my moſt ſincere acknowledgments. I eaſily conceive how diſagreeable your preſent ſituation

muſt be. Indeed, my Lord, you deſerved better returns from the Whigs than violence for moderation, obſtinacy for complaiſance, and ribaldry for reaſon. But this good effect, however, reſults from all the indulgence and patience which has been exerted, that none can wonder at the Queen's reſentment, none can complain, if, after ſuch attacks, ſhe aſſerts the honour of her government with vigour, and ſome degree of ſeverity. Allow me to add, that as much as your nature is averſe to the doing any thing hard, the provocations which you have received, are ſufficient to make your Grace feel ſome ſatisfaction, whilſt theſe ungrateful madmen are paid the price of their folly. The proceedings of the Iriſh Commons have awakened the moſt indolent of all thoſe, who mean well in this kingdom; and will, I make no doubt, ſtrengthen and ſecure the government they were calculated to overthrow. I ſhall ſay the leſs to your Grace in this letter, becauſe the inſtructions I received in Council, authorized me to write more plainly, than is uſually done, in a public diſpatch.

But there is one point, which the Queen directed me to write upon to your Grace, in my own hand: Whether the diſcontented party reſolve to ſend agents hither or not, her Majeſty judges it will be of uſe, during the interval of Parliament in Ireland, and the ſeſſion of it here, to have ſome few Lords and Commons, ſuch as have the beſt capacity, and as have ſhown the greateſt zeal, in oppoſing the late violent meaſures, come to Britain. If any thing ſhould ariſe here, relating to the tranſactions at Dublin, from theſe perſons our friends may receive information, and ſcattered amongſt our own party, will both inſtruct and animate them. Beſide which, it is to be conſidered, that when ſome of the moſt conſiderable of the Churchmen of Ireland are upon the ſpot, and conſulted with, in the meaſures taken for the future ſettlement of things, it will not be poſſible to attribute, if any point ſhould fail hereafter, this failure to an omiſſion or defect on this ſide of the water.

I expreſſed my own meaning ill, if I induced your Grace, by what fell from my pen, in a former letter, to think, that there was a deſign of taxing Ireland in the Parliament of Britain. The conſequence of ſuch a meaſure to the prerogative is too bad, to ſuffer any one, who means well to the crown, to be for it. All I intended, was to ſhow your Grace the temper of the people here, and that the Queen might depend on every thing, which this parliament could do, to ſupport her againſt the attempts of the faction in Ireland.

Your Grace had too often repeated your commands to me, concerning your own continuance in that kingdom, for me to preſume not to obey them; I read thoſe paragraphs of your letters to her Majeſty, and though the Queen entered extremely into the difficulties, which you have to ſtruggle with, yet ſhe ſeemed to think they would leſſen, and that there was time enough before your Grace, for you to take a reſolution in this affair. The Parliament being not likely to ſit in Ireland till ours is up, many meaſures being to be taken, and it being poſſible that many accidents may happen to change the face of things during the time, the Queen's deſire, I think, is, that your Grace ſhould come hither, after you have taken the beſt care you can to have the government carried on in your abſence, but not on the foot of quitting the employment of Lord Lieutenant. The troubles your Grace has met with in which ſtation, can be attributed to nothing but the unfortunate circumſtance of time.

I hope your Grace will always think fit to ſerve the Queen, ſure I am, you muſt be always thought ſo, and particularly by thoſe who eſteem it now their great advantage and honour to be joined with you. I beg your Grace's pardon, that I forgot, in the hurry of much buſineſs at Windſor, being urged to haſten back thither, to ſpeak to her Majeſty about the preferment which you deſtine for Mr. Greenſheilds: I will not fail to do it on Saturday. I am, &c. B.

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

My Lord,

Whitehall, January 19th, 1713-14.

THE contents of your Lordſhip's letter, of the 26th of December, are much better anſwered by the Queen, than they could be by any thing I am able to ſay. Your Lordſhip ſees how much juſtice ſhe does to your ſignal merit, and how little reaſon you had to apprehend that the inſinuations of malice, or the clamours of faction, would make any impreſſion upon ſo gracious a miſtreſs, or induce her to withdraw her protection from a ſervant, whoſe only crime has been ſupporting her prerogative and the honour of her government. When I writ to your Lordſhip before, I thought that the employment which you deſired for your ſon had been actually given, my Lord Treaſurer having told me, ſome days before, that it would be ſo; but it ſeems a repreſentation, which has been made by the Commiſſioners of the revenue, againſt the continuance of this office, prevented what was intended.

I hope, I may ſay I know, that the diſappointment will only ſerve to make the firſt ſtep Mr. Phipps takes into the world better; for whom I can wiſh nothing more than that he may deſerve as well of the Queen, the church, and his country, as his father has done.

The liſt of Biſhops being ſettled before any application in favour of Dr. Hamilton * came, it was impoſſible on this occaſion to provide for him. As this is a true, ſo I hope it will appear a reaſonable excuſe to your Lordſhip, and that you will make my Lord Abercorn of the ſame mind. I am, &c. B.

* Dr. Andrew Hamilton, Archdeacon of Raphoe.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Verſailles, le 28me Janvier, 1714.

S'IL y a quelque occaſion, my Lord, de vous faire un compliment, c'eſt au ſujet du rétabliſſement de la ſanté de la Reine. Permettez-moi donc de vous aſſurer, que connoiſſant votre zèle, votre cœur, & votre état, je ſuis entré dans tous ſentimens; & ſi je me ſuis égaré, ce ne ſera tout-au-plus, que parce que j'aurois été moins philoſophe pour vous, que vous ne l'êtes vous-même ſur l'avenir. Dieu conſerve cette grande Princeſſe, & lui donne la ſatisfaction de voir bientôt l'ouvrage de la paix, qu'elle a ſi fort avancé, entièrement conſommé. Je l'eſpérerois, my Lord, ſi l'on étoit aſſez heureux pour trouver hors de l'Angleterre des négociateurs tels que vous. Mais s'il y en a quelqu'un en d'autres endroits de l'Europe, dont je doute, ce n'eſt pas à la Cour de Vienne qu'il faut les chercher. Elle fournit, en leur place, des projets, qu'on ne peut même honorer du titre de captieux, ſes deſſeins y ſont trop clairement découverts; & l'on ne voit, de la part de ceux qui dreſſent ces projets, que le deſire d'être artificieux, ſans avoir le bonheur de parvenir à leur but.

Vous en jugerez mieux que perſonne, quand Monſieur Iberville aura l'honneur de vous faire voir le projet préliminaire, que je lui envoye, tel que Monſieur le Prince Eugene l'a préſenté à Monſieur le Mareſchal de Villars. Il n'eſt pas étonnant qu'un grand Général adopte cette manière de traiter approuvée, il y a déjà quelques années de lui, & d'un autre grand Général. Le nôtre, plus accoutumé à cueiller des lauriers que des branches d'olive, croit qu'un ſoldat ſait mal farder la vérité, & prend en Monſieur le Prince Eugène la même confiance que je prendrois en my Lord Bolingbroke. Nous en verrons bientôt l'effet, qui fera vraiſemblablement la rupture des conférences à Raſtadt. Je voudrois bien en voir renouer d'autres ſous de meilleures

auſpices,

auſpices, & je ne les croirai telles que lorſque la Reine & ſes Miniſtres y auront part.

En attendant, my Lord, j'ai recours à vous, pour un autre traité de paix : Matthieu n'eſt pas moins injuſte qu'il eſt inſupportable ſur un article dont il ne ceſſe de me parler, & donc vous pouvez juger mieux que perſonne. C'eſt celui de trois malheureuſes écluſes faites à Dunkerque aux dépens du pays, avant que la place fut au Roi, & qu'on veut aujourd'hui démolir, comme pouvant ſervir à nettoyer le port. On a fait voir à Monſieur Prior, qu'il n'étoit pas à craindre qu'elles ſerviſſent jamais à cet uſage, que leur deſtruction cauſeroit la ruine totale du pays. Mémoires, cartes, plans, tout a été employé pour le convaincre, ſans pouvoir fléchir ſon opiniâtreté. Vous ſeul, my Lord, vous pouvez, par vos ordres, lui rendre la raiſon, qu'il a perdu abſolument, ſur cet article ; & j'oſe dire que vous le devez autant par pitié pour lui que pour l'honneur de la Reine ; & ſérieuſement la juſtice & la bonté de ſa Majeſté Britannique ſont intéreſſée, non-ſeulement à ne pas demander, mais même à ne pas ſouffrir cette deſtruction, abſolument inutile à l'objet qu'elle ſe propoſe, & qui acheveroit de ruiner les habitans de cette malheureuſe ville, auſſi-bien que le pays des environs.

Je vous ai vu, my Lord, touché de ces raiſons, vous avez été depuis ſur les lieux. Impoſez donc, je vous ſupplie, ſilence à Matthieu, en ſorte qu'au lieu de querelles entre lui & moi, nous n'ayons déſormais qu'à parler de vos perfections. Nous ſerons toujours d'accord ſur cet article, comme je ſerai toujours, plus que perſonne, & en vérité très parfaitement, Monſieur, votre, &c.

De Torcy.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, January 20th, 1713-14.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Majeſty, that your ſervants here, employ themſelves in preparing the minds of men to carry on your ſervice with that vigour, which the preſent circumſtances of affairs, and the violence of the Whig faction, require.

I was yeſterday with my Lord Chancellor, and my Lord Treaſurer. We went exactly over the liſt of Lords, and I believe, I may venture to ſay, that, notwithſtanding the oppoſition of thoſe who are clothed with the marks of your Majeſty's goodneſs and favour, we ſhall be able to form a very conſiderable majority. As to the Commons, there is not the leaſt reaſon to doubt of their dutiful behaviour.

There are letters from Ireland, of the 12th of this month, but not a ſyllable of buſineſs, in any of mine; from whence I conclude, that all things remained in ſuſpenſe there, till the arrival of your Majeſty's farther orders, which were diſpatched laſt night, according to the inſtructions I received on Sunday.

We have a packet from France, the letters are of the 26th, N.S. Mr. Prior relates, that the project of peace, come from Raſtadt, does not pleaſe the Court of France, and that a counter-project is preparing, which will be offered to the Emperor to accept, or refuſe at once. The French Commiſſaries are by this time ſet out, and if we find them as reaſonable, as it is affirmed their orders empower them to be, I hope your Majeſty will ſee a happy iſſue put to a negociation, which has been made intricate and tedious by the folly of ſome, and the knavery of others, of thoſe, who would have been gainers by the diſpatch of it. A Committee of Council ſits to-morrow morning, and on Friday

in.

in the evening, there is to be a Committee in the Council Chamber, to prepare an order to be laid before your Majeſty, for taking off the impoſition on French ſhipping, as France has already taken off that which was laid on your Majeſty's ſubjects.

This neceſſary attendance makes it impoſſible for me to return to my duty at Windſor before Saturday. I am, &c.

B.

I had almoſt forgot to acquaint your Majeſty, that the Queen of Spain continues very ill, and is removed to the Prado for the air.

To the Lord Primate of Ireland.

My Lord,

Whitehall, January 21ſt, 1713-14.

I KNOW not by what accident it happened, whether in my own office, or in the poſt-office, but the honour of your Grace's letter of the 11th, did not come to my hand, till after I had diſpatched the laſt Iriſh mail: I ſhould otherwiſe have taken the very firſt opportunity of aſſuring your Grace, that if I was able in any degree to contribute to your promotion, Ireland, and Britain too, are more obliged to me than you. What aſſiſtance your Grace may want from hence, will at all times be readily given by thoſe who have now the honour to ſerve her Majeſty, and perhaps there have been very few conjunctures, wherein union, concert, and mutual aſſiſtance among thoſe, who mean the preſervation of our conſtitution in Church and State, were more neceſſary than the preſent. As ſoon as Mr. Southwell had informed me that the Archbiſhop of Armagh had uſually been her Majeſty's almoner, I ſpoke to the Queen about it, and by her order, have already writ to my Lord Duke of Shrewſbury, to let his Grace

know, that ſhe intends to obſerve the ſame rule on this occaſion. The letter will be ſigned by her Majeſty on Sunday, and ſhall be tranſmitted by the poſt of Tueſday.

I am, &c.

B.

To the Earl of Angleſey.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, January 25th, 1713-14.

THOUGH I have not had the honour of correſponding with your Lordſhip, yet Mr. Secretary Bromley aſſuring me, that the importance of the affairs now in agitation, and the weighty conſequence to our country, to ourſelves, to our poſterity, of the meaſures at this time fallen upon, would juſtify me with your Lordſhip in aſſuming this liberty, I venture to write to you, and in doing ſo, ſhall uſe that liberty, which it is prudent to take with a man of ſenſe, and ſafe to take with a man of honour.

The violent meaſures, into which the Houſe of Commons of Ireland have run, happened in one reſpect very opportunely. The neceſſity of acting on thoſe principles, and with that vigour, which your Lordſhip has always wiſhed for, and which I have always, perhaps ſometimes with too much vehemence, preſſed for, was become ſo apparent, that my Lord Treaſurer ſeemed determined to ſubmit his own ſchemes to the opinion of his friends. The Queen at the ſame time, was in ſuch a diſpoſition, that it was viſible that all propoſitions, which tended to eſtabliſh the Church intereſt, would meet with a ready aſſiſtance from her: I began then truly to hope, that we ſhould no longer palliate a diſtemper, which like other virulent infections, will ſoon gather ſtrength from the leaſt remaining particle; and Broderick's party, from whom

I never expected any good, have done this, that theſe hopes are confirmed, or, to ſpeak more properly, are turned into certainty.

Indeed, my Lord, I think, and your Lordſhip knows I have not been over ſanguine upon this ſubject, that unleſs we are, as Tories, wanting to ourſelves, unleſs we abandon the rules of common prudence, the Church intereſt, and the Court intereſt will, for the future during her Majeſty's reign, be ſynonymous terms.

If it be true, my Lord, that this is the preſent temper of the Court, your Lordſhip will, I am ſure, agree with me, that the conjuncture is not to be neglected; that a ſet of Miniſters who, without any reſerve, avowedly attempt to eſtabliſh the true intereſt of Britain and Ireland, an intereſt, which, for many years, has been preyed upon by a faction, who, like other inſects, are created and nouriſhed by the ſickneſs and corruption of the body in which they reſide, have a right to claim from ſuch as profeſs to be of this intereſt, that their adminiſtration under the Queen, ſhould be rendered eaſy, at leaſt practicable.

I believe I am not miſtaken, when I affirm, that almoſt all our friends are in the ſentiments which we could wiſh; but I muſt own freely to your Lordſhip, there are ſome who ſeem to me to divide firſt, and look about for reaſons afterwards. If there are really, my Lord, ſuch people amongſt us, they muſt be yielded to, diſarmed, or converted. For my own part, I am willing either to do the firſt, or attempt the ſecond, but the laſt is ſurely the moſt eligible; at any rate, there muſt not be the leaſt appearance of diviſion in the body of the Tories.

The Queen, God be praiſed! is finely recovered, though the gout ſtill confines her, and gives occaſion, or rather colour (for they want no occaſion to lye) to the Whigs, daily and hourly, to ſpread a thouſand rumours of her ſickneſs ſometimes, and ſometimes of her death. But ſtill ſhe has but one life, and whenever that drops, if the Church intereſt is broke, without concert, without confidence, without order, we

are

are of all men the moſt miſerable. The Whigs will be united, and ready to take any hint which their leaders ſhall give; I will not ſay, that the inclination of the Houſe of Hanover is to the Whigs, I intend to be for them, and therefore hope better things of them; but this I will ſay, that I ſhall be ſorry to ſee it, in any degree, made their intereſt, to give in to that party, whoſe tyranny we have felt, and the conſequences of whoſe adminiſtration, the next generation muſt expect to feel alſo.

Your Lordſhip is probably by this time ready to aſk, when I will end, and in what all I have writ is to terminate? Come over, my Lord, as ſoon as poſſibly you can; your friends here are ready to concert freely and honourably with you; and I am perſuaded that we may act, through the whole Seſſion, as one man, and if we once find this art, the oppoſite faction is undone.

The Queen's indiſpoſition, hindered the inſtruments for the Biſhops ſeveral days from being ſigned; my Lord Treaſurer's illneſs kept him the laſt journey from Windſor, but you may depend on this affair's being diſpatched by Tueſday's poſt. I wiſh it may be practicable to Dr. Hamilton, but I doubt the application came too late.

Mr. Secretary Bromley has taken notice to your Lordſhip, that the Queen would be glad, and I have intimated the ſame thing to my Lord Lieutenant, that ſome few Lords and Commoners, ſuch as are of moſt weight and conſideration in your Parliament, might come over this winter: the advantage which would reſult from thence, I need not ſuggeſt, either with reſpect to the debating, if that comes to be the caſe, of what is paſt, or with reſpect to your taking meaſures for ſecuring a Tory Parliament in your next elections.

Can you, my Lord, forgive the length of this letter? nothing could have made me treſpaſs thus far on your patience, but a conviction that we have now an opportunity to eſtabliſh preſent and future happineſs

in our country, and that if this opportunity be neglected, we may perhaps never have, as we ſhall hardly deſerve to have another.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From Mr. Prior.*

Paris, January 18th, 1714..

THE very apprehenſions I felt, from what you ſaid of the Queen's being ill, though you added the news of her being recovered, gave my carcaſe a very ugly ſhock; ſo much do my own fears naturally outweigh my joys, or plainer, ſo much am I rather a coward than a hero. Good God! what a thouſand things have I thought, ſince I received your letter; if that ſhould happen, which one hates even to think of, what is to become of us? What ſort, or ſet of men, are to be our taſk-maſters? And what ſluices are we provided with, to ſave Great Britain from being overflowed? After, what would become of us all? the thought I grant you is very mean, what would become of me? but humanity is frail and querulous; if the proſpect, therefore, of this evil (though I hope far removed) be dreadful to the maſters of Mortemar Caſtle, Hinton St. George, Stanton Harcourt, or Bucklebury †, what muſt it be to friend Matt; *qui oppreſſus inimicis & invidiâ, ærumnis, & paupertate, morbis, & annis*; or, as it is upon the tombſtone, fine goods, fine lands, fine riches? Why won't Lord Treaſurer think of this one half hour, ſince he may do it any half hour, ſince he intends to do it, I believe; and poſſibly, half an hour too late, will be as ſorry as myſelf that it was not done? But if the Queen is well, hang all the reſt! Gaultier had alarmed this Court; upon your letter, I was glad to convince them, that there was no ground for their apprehenſions, your

* Private.

† The Seats of Lords Oxford, Paulet, Harcourt, and Bolingbroke.

Lordſhip's

Lordſhip's letter giving ſo good an account of her Majeſty's indiſpoſition being ſo happily paſt; and accordingly, I continued the appointment and invitation, I had made, to ſome of our friends to dine with me yeſterday. Monſieur could not, as he promiſed, come, the King having appointed him to wait on his Majeſty at Marli; but I had, women, Croiſſy, Torcy, Bouzolles, and (as Madame Croiſſy had invited her) Lady Jerſey; men, Cardinal Polignac, Abbé Pompone, Count Croiſſy, and that gang; Albergotti to ſing, *accompagnement de muſique*, and every thing *à l'honneur de l'Angleterre:* but under this maſk of mirth, *premit alto corde dolorem*, till I hear from England, more particularly, that the Queen's health is confirmed.

Judge you only of your Dowager's ſincerity: though I received her kindly, waited on her home, &c. I heard this morning, from Hunter, that ſhe would not let the child know ſhe was to dine with me, though I had invited him; that ſhe left word with the Porter, that nobody from me ſhould ſee him, while ſhe was here; and that ſhe was not at home this morning, in caſe, I ſhould go to ſee her (which indeed I did). Pardon this rhapſody, and believe me ever moſt truly, my Lord, &c.

MATT.

From Mr. Prior *.

MY LORD,

Paris, January 26th, 1714.

TO my letter, I take the liberty to add the conſtitution †, which is likely to ſet the clergy of this kingdom into a flame, and may, if rightly managed, produce a Gallican ſeparate from a Roman Church.

Ever, my Lord, &c.

MATT.

* Private. † Unigenitus filius Dei.

From

From Mr. Prior *.

Verſailles, February 1ſt, 1714.

TO a long letter to the Secretary of State, give me leave to add a word to my dear Lord Bolingbroke. Before I received your laſt commands, I had made Monſieur de Torcy ſenſible of the unreaſonableneſs of a hypocritical mother's ruining a hopeful ſon, and of the ill conſequences an affair of this nature might produce, as to the public. I ſee, he will in earneſt endeavour to get the child from her; I have ſet Cardinal Polignac upon the ſame ſubject, and am not without reaſonable hopes of prevailing. I would, therefore, ſee what Monſieur de Torcy will do in it, which he promiſes me ſhall be in eight or ten days; in the mean time, I would not let the child know more than that you have writ to him, and that he ſhould continue to be ready to ſay to Monſieur de Torcy, or any perſon elſe, that he is willing and reſolved to return to England; I leave with Monſieur de Torcy, an extract of the inſtances made to me by your Lordſhip in this behalf; I have added a little lie, that my Lord Chancellor has writ to me, and that, by the laws of England, the child is of age to chooſe who he will live with; may it not be brought about, that he ſhould chooſe Lord Chancellor, Lord Treaſurer, and yourſelf, for his guardians, though I know no eſtate he has? or, *à-propos*, his elder brother, a Peer of England, may not he reclaim him? and ſince you have given yourſelf thus much trouble, why would not you go on, by writing to Monſieur de Torcy a word, and by ſpeaking to Iberville; and, by letting Lord Jerſey do the ſame, why, I ſay, ſhould we not all contribute to effect this little boy's return fairly and openly? And laſtly, why will not Mr. Bromley and Sir Thomas Hanmer give Iberville to underſtand, that every Roman Catholic may ſuffer for the ſake

* Private.

of

of the ſillieſt woman that ever told a pair of beads? Upon theſe joint inſtances, I dare ſay, the thing may be effected, and our lioneſs be forced to quit her hold of the young one; for by what Gaultier has already writ hither, and pray let him write again, I perceive theſe people a good deal ſtaggered in the thing, and I found Monſieur de Torcy embarraſſed, when I told him, that by fair means or by forceable means, the child ſhould go into England, and that, as I had never lied to him, he might depend upon my veracity, in this point.

You will eaſily imagine with what joy we received the news of the Queen's being perfectly recovered: pray ſend Barton hither, before her birth-day, for I intend to celebrate it, for the honour of the nation, and ſhall have peculiar occaſion for that ſage Engliſh officer.

My dear Lord, yours, &c.

MATT.

I am glad you like your Venus.

To Mr. Prior.

DEAR MATT,

Windſor Caſtle, January 30th, 1713-14.

I BEGIN this private letter to-day, becauſe I foreſee, that I may very probably be ſo taken up to-morrow and on Monday, as to render it impoſſible for me to write to you any thing more than a public diſpatch.

I agree, that the moſt eligible way of getting my couſin Villars home again, is by open means, and by the act of the Court of France; but I hope you agree too, that any means, all means, muſt be tried, rather than this youth ſhould be abandoned to all the evil conſequences of his mother's folly. My Lord Treaſurer touched this ſubject, in a letter he writ

writ to Monſieur de Torcy. I have mentioned it to Monſieur d'Ibberville, and the Lords of the Cabinet will all do the ſame; neither is it any artifice to ſay, that the ſimplicity of this mother may bring a great uneaſineſs on the Roman Catholics here, who at preſent enjoy as much tranquillity as any others of the Queen's ſubjects.

Monday, February 1ſt.

YESTERDAY Monſieur d'Iberville waited on the Queen, and her Majeſty ſaid to him, what you will find in my other letter; you remember they pretended that her Majeſty had taken no notice of this buſineſs to the Duke d'Aumont. Adieu, dear Matt, I am, &c.

B.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, February 3rd, 1713-14.

I HAVE the honour and ſatisfaction to acquaint your Majeſty, that having laſt night gone through the alterations, made by the Spaniſh Court, to the treaty of commerce, I found them ſuch as are entirely reaſonable. They are but two, and they ſerve rather to aſcertain what was agreed, than to make any new bargain. The ratifications being to be exchanged at Utrecht, muſt be prepared by Mr. Secretary Bromley, in doing which I am to aſſiſt him this morning; and I ſhall take care to advertiſe my Lord Chancellor, to carry the great ſeal to Windſor with him, by which means a courier may be diſpatched on Saturday with theſe inſtruments, and the peace with Spain may be proclaimed in form, by the ſitting of Parliament.

Mr. Lawleſs acquaints me, that he ſent to the King his maſter a ſtate, which I drew up, of the intereſts of Spain, in the preſent poſture of the

affairs of Europe, and particularly of thoſe articles, on which your Majeſty would expect full ſatisfaction; and that the King has returned it to him with approbation of every point. If this be ſo, your Majeſty has removed the immediate and prevented future difficulties with the Court of Madrid; and this negociation, though long, has ended, as I pray God, all your Majeſty's deſigns may, ſucceſsfully.

A Court of Directors of the South Sea Company meets this morning, and things are put into ſuch a method, that they will probably accept your Majeſty's aſſignment *, and take the trade upon them, without more delay; at leaſt the little I can do, my influence in this affair not extending far, has been done.

Your Majeſty's letter † to the Lord Mayor was received with tranſports of joy, and will, I hope, put ſome ſtop to thoſe infamous proceedings, by which the Whigs have, on this occaſion, ſhown, from the higheſt of them down to the loweſt, what they always had at heart, ingratitude and diſloyalty.

I beg your Majeſty's pardon for ſo harſh an expreſſion, and hope it may be allowed to the zeal of one whoſe life is devoted to your ſervice, and whoſe views go no farther than yourſelf.

I am, &c.

B.

* This relates to the aſſiento contract; the Queen aſſigned over to the Company the ſhare reſerved for her Majeſty.

† The Queen's illneſs had been much exaggerated, the conſequence of which was, the funds fell, and the Bank experienced a great run upon it; to remedy this, the Queen wrote to the Lord Mayor, Sir William Stanier, announcing her recovery from the gout; her intention to open the Parliament on the 16th, and her hopes that the citizens of London would put a ſtop to thoſe malicious rumours which prejudiced the public credit and tranquillity.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.*

MY LORD.

Whitehall, February 4th, 1713-14.

I HAVE no other concern about the accident, which you are pleaſed to mention, in your private letter of the 27th of January, than the trouble it has occaſioned your Grace. My whole correſpondence has been pointed to remove, as far as in me lay, difficulties of all kinds, and from all quarters, and there has not fallen a ſyllable from my pen, which I ſhould be ſorry that you, my Lord, might ſee. Do me the juſtice to be perſuaded of this truth, and to look on me as, my Lord,

Your Grace's &c. B.

To the Queen.

MADAM,

Whitehall, February 11th, 1713-14.

I WOULD have had the honour to ſend your Majeſty, with this letter, the liſts of Lords, ranged as we expect they will vote, had I not kept it to ſhow to Lord Treaſurer, Lord Chancellor, and Lord Trevor, whom I am appointed to meet, and by whoſe aſſiſtance the account will be rendered more exact and more authentic: I will not fail to bring it to Windſor on Saturday.

The Lords of Council met yeſterday, and among other matters I propoſed to them, as your Majeſty was pleaſed to allow me to do, the additional inſtruction to Mr. Harley †; they readily came into it, and having nothing new to offer, Mr. Secretary Bromley has diſpatched it,

* The copy of this letter is not addreſſed to any perſon. The editor judges it to have been written to the Duke of Shrewſbury, and therefore has addreſſed it to him.

† Who was going again Envoy-extraordinary, to Hanover.

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in the terms in which I opened it to your Majeſty. This meaſure will bring the Elector to ſome declaration or other. In all caſes, your Majeſty will be at more certainty: thoſe of your ſubjects who mean honeſtly, will be eaſy and ſatisfied; and thoſe who mean otherwiſe, will be a good deal diſarmed. I have not ſeen Mr. Harley, but I heard yeſterday he was not gone: I mention this, becauſe I ought to aſk your Majeſty's pardon for informing you that he went laſt week. He intended to embark on Friday laſt, and took his leave of me accordingly, juſt before I ſet out for Windſor, and this occaſioned my miſtake.

The Directors of the South Sea Company have tried all the art poſſible to wreſt, on their own terms, out of her Majeſty's hands, the favours you deſigned them: but they are now at the end of their line; and things are put upon ſuch an iſſue, with my Lord Treaſurer's approbation, that your Majeſty will, by Saturday next, either have obliged them to ſubmit, or elſe remain no longer under any engagements to them. In which caſe, I know of none who will ſuffer but themſelves, as in the former I know of none who would have gained ſo much as themſelves.

A poſt from France arrived this morning, with letters of the 13th and 16th, N.S. The principal article in them is, that Prince Eugene has ſent another plan to Verſailles, which comes nearer to the French than the firſt did. But two ſtrange propoſitions the Emperor ſtill inſiſts upon; one is, that all the treaties which France entered into at Utrecht, as far, I ſuppoſe, as the Houſe of Auſtria is affected by them, ſhall paſs for nothing; the other is, that nothing ſhall be ſtipulated for the King of Sicily, or the other Princes of Italy. Your Majeſty perceives by theſe demands, that the view of the Court of Vienna is to lay the foundation of a new war, whenever they conclude this. Mr. Prior had received your Majeſty's orders, about the galley-ſlaves, which

ſtill remain at the oar, on account of religion, and had begun to execute them. The Queen-dowager, at St. Germain's, is ſo very ill, that ſhe has taken what they call *tous les ſacremens:* they do not hope that it is poſſible for her to recover.

Since I wrote thus far, Mr. Harley has been with me. He has been ill ſince I ſaw him, but thinks himſelf well enough to proceed without farther delay. I am, Madam, &c. B.

A Monſieur le Comte de Montéleon.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 12me Février, 1713-14.

LES fêtes de Samedi, jour de la naiſſance de la Reine, & les affaires qui me ſont ſurvenues Dimanche, jour du Conſeil, m'ont empêché d'avoir l'honneur de vous écrire, comme je me l'étois propoſé, par le courier, qui ſera préſentement arrivé à Utrecht, avec les ratifications du traité de commerce. Si je n'ai pas pris plutôt la réſolution de répondre à votre lettre du 3me du mois paſſé, la raiſon en a été, pour vous le dire naïvement, que je ne ſavois de quelle manière m'y répondre juſques à ce que nous ſumes ſi le traité de commerce, tel que vous l'avez ſigné, ſeroit ratifié ou non. Je veux toujours vous parler & vous écrire ſans réſerve, & quand il s'agiroit d'en uſer avec vous d'une autre manière, je vous l'avoue, Monſieur, que je me trouverois beaucoup embarraſſé.

Don Patricio Lawleſs me ſervira de témoin, combien j'ai été touché des contretems que vous avez eſſuyé en Hollande. J'ai cependant cru comme vous, qu'on n'eſt jamais la dupe, quand on agit avec honneur, avec droiture, & avec probité. Je me ſuis conſolé par la perſuaſion, dans laquelle j'ai été, que tôt ou tard le Roi votre maître rendroit juſtice à votre mérite, & regarderoit dans leur véritable jour

tou

tous les grands ſervices que vous lui avez rendu. Vous ſavez, Monſieur, combien je ſuis perſuadé que les intérêts de nos deux nations doivent être inſéparables ; jugez par-là, s'il vous plaît, auſſi-bien que par l'amitié que je vous ai promiſe, & que je vous conſerverai toujours, de la joie que j'ai reſſenti en apprenant que vous reviendrez ici, & que j'aurai le plaiſir de travailler ſur ce beau plan, avec un Miniſtre auſſi bien porté & auſſi éclairé que vous.

La rupture des conférences de Raſtadt, & les informations que vous avez reçues de ce qui s'eſt paſſé entre les deux Généraux, vous auront mis au fait de pluſieurs choſes qui vous paroiſſent douteuſes. Il eſt ſûr qu'on a cru en Hollande & ailleurs, que pour parvenir à la paix, la France pourroit faire de certains ſacrifices, & il n'eſt pas fort étonnant, ſi de gens qui veulent, par pluſieurs raiſons, avoir de grand ménagemens pour l'Empereur, craignent de ſtipuler des choſes choquantes à ce Prince, & ſur leſquelles, à leur avis, la France peut bien paſſer outre dans le traité qu'elle fait avez ce Prince ; mais préſentement on doit eſpérer que les conſeils des Etats-Généraux enviſageront, d'un autre œil, la conduite de ſa Majeſté Impériale, & verront qu'il ne s'agit pas de quelque choſe de plus ou de moins pour l'Electeur de Bavière, & pour Madame la Princeſſe des Urſins ; mais qu'il s'agit de renverſer tout ce qui a été fait à Utrecht, par complaiſance à la Maiſon d'Autriche, ou d'obliger l'Empereur de faire ſa paix, d'une manière à rendre complet le ſyſtême, duquel par leurs traités tant d'autres puiſſances ſont tombées d'accord. Quand les Miniſtres d'Hollande feront cette réflexion, je ne puis pas me perſuader qu'ils ſe réſoudront à copier ſur la politique de la Cour de Vienne, & à différer leur paix avec l'Eſpagne, juſqu'à ce que ſa Majeſté Impériale, trouve à-propos à conclure la ſienne avec la France.

L'échange des ratifications de nos traités ne contribuera pas peu à diſpoſer les eſprits des Hollandois à conclure avec vous ; & je compte

que

que my Lord Strafford s'employera à cette fin de la manière la plus efficace. Ce miniſtre ne manquera pas de vous communiquer les derniers ordres de la Reine, ſur les prétenſions de la Princeſſe des Urſins. Vous verrez, Monſieur par toute la conduite de la Reine qu'elle ne perd jamais de vue, les engagemens qu'elle a pris : elle ſe pique d'être fidelle allié. Le Roi Catholique la trouvera toujours telle à ſon égard, &, par conſéquent, il ne doit pas prendre en mauvaiſe part, qu'elle ſoutient avec fermeté les intérêts d'un Prince avec lequel elle a des engagemens les plus ſolennels, & qui s'eſt départi, comme vous ſavez, Monſieur, en conſidération de la Reine, de pluſieurs prétenſions, qui, ſans doute, auroient embarraſſé la négociation, & fait traîner la concluſion de la paix. Vous jugez bien, Monſieur, que je veux parler du Roi de Portugal, & je m'addreſſe plus-tôt à vous qu'à aucun autre Miniſtre, ſur ce ſujet, parce que vous avez été témoin, que quand la Reine prit la réſolution de paſſer outre de ſigner avec la France, & de propoſer que les Miniſtres de l'Eſpagne fuſſent admis au Congrès, c'étoit dans une confiance entière, que le Roi de Portugal renonçant à toutes prétenſions ſur le continent d'Eſpagne, la paix ſeroit faite ſur le plan qui vous a été, dans ce tems-là, remis par le Comte de Dartmouth. Vous avez coutribué à finir cette négociation par les minutes concertés à Utrecht : mais les apoſtilles dreſſées à Madrid, rendent vos bonnes intentions infructueuſes.

Permettez-moi de vous renvoyer à ce que j'ai écrit à Don Patricio Lawleſs ſur ce ſujet, & de vous conjurer de travailler ſérieuſement à nous tirer cette épine du dos. Au reſte, Monſieur, vous ne pouvez pas venir ici ſi-tôt qu'on le ſouhaite. Vous trouverez Monſieur le Comte d'Oxford & moi toujours dans les mêmes ſentimens, & la Reine m'a ordonné de vous aſſurer qu'elle ſera très-aiſe de vous voir.

Je ſuis, Monſieur, &c.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Verſailles, le 7me Février, 1714.

MESSIEURS Aniſon & Fenelon, qui ont déjà l'honneur d'être connu de vous, Monſieur, partent pour ſe rendre inceſſamment à Londres, avec les ordres & diſpoſitions néceſſaires pour entrer dans les moyens & à terminer la commiſſion dont ils ſont chargés à la ſatisfaction & à l'avantage commun des deux nations. Je vous demande pour eux la continuation de vos bontés, & je vous ſupplie de croire que je ſuis, très véritablement,

Votre, &c.

DE TORCY.

From Mr. Prior *.

Paris, February 9th, 1714.

MR. Churchill brought me, two days ſince, a recommendatory letter from your Lordſhip; he may be aſſured of my beſt offices. For God's ſake, my Lord, how do you all do, and what do you all do, in your enchanted iſland? for the ſtories we have here, of your irreſolutions and miſunderſtandings, are monſtrous. Pray, let Henry write to Mat, one word, by Barton, by which I may know, however imperfectly, how to anſwer people here, or how to govern myſelf. Adieu, my Lord, I am moſt ſincerely yours.

In diſcourſe with the Commiſſioners that are coming to you, I have had opportunity of doing juſtice to the character and merit of my old friend, Mr. Whitworth, as I have likewiſe aſſured them, that they

* Private.

may

may prepare themſelves to find, in the other gentlemen appointed to treat with them, all the candour and fairneſs of mind in their treating, and all the openneſs and extent of view in their propoſals, that they can poſſibly wiſh, for the mutual good and friendſhip of the nations.

From Mr. Prior.

My Lord,

Paris, February 9th, N.S. 1714.

I AM to acknowledge your very welcome letter of the 21ſt of January, V.S. and to thank you for the bleſſed news it brought me, of her Majeſty's being perfectly well, which is the *unum neceſſarium* as to all our wiſhes and endeavours.

Meſſrs. Aniſon and Fenelon will part from hence on Monday; the true reaſon of their ſtaying ſo long is, that they received their advance-money but two days ſince. I have already ſo fully informed your Lordſhip of every thing I have done and ſaid to the Miniſters in that behalf, that I have only to add, that, in taking leave of the Commiſſaries, I obſerve they ſeem to be fully inſtructed, and to come to you with a very friendly diſpoſition, as to the explanation of all the articles in general, as well as to the confirming the reciprocal obligation of their being treated as *amiciſſima gens*, and our enjoying the benefits of the tarif of 1664; ſo I hope all is done, on this ſide, that could be expected, and that on yours thoſe gentlemen will find an eaſy diſpoſition and tendency towards the completing a bargain, which, in my poor ſenſe, ſeems to be one of the beſt that, for ſome years paſt, has been made for the univerſal good of England, however diſadvantageous it will prove to thoſe, who upon the 'Change are called topping merchants, and who have made themſelves ſuch by a downright monopoly of the trade (which ſhould be national) into their own hands. I have

viſited

viſited their Excellencies, Meſſrs. Goſlinga and de Buys*, and met with a very kind reception from both: the former, in an open and free manner, talked of the ſtate of their affairs with France, and aſked, as he ſhould do, about the Queen's health; the latter queſtioned me very bluntly, if I had ſeen the plan ſent to Raſtadt; if I had communicated it to you in England? and as to her Majeſty's recovery, would not believe one word I ſaid.

I daily expect the order of Council for taking off the duty of tonnage from the French ſhipping; the rather, becauſe the 15th inſtant, which will be next Thurſday, the term appointed will expire: and upon the notification, your Lordſhip will pleaſe to give me, of a proclamation for the better preventing the frauds and violences committed on our coaſts, I ſhall, as my duty obliges, endeavour to obtain a like edict from his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty. By the memorial I gave to this Court, and ſent your Lordſhip in mine of the 31ſt, your Lordſhip will have ſeen, that I had previouſly obeyed what, in your letter above-mentioned of 21ſt of January, you thought I ſhould do, in anſwer to all plans, and Pelletier's repreſentations, on that ſubject; and by what Monſieur Iberville writes on that ſubject to Monſieur de Torcy, I hope Mr. Hill's preſence, candour, and authority, will have compoſed that affair. I have only to add my repeated prayers for her Majeſty's health, and aſſurances of my being, with all duty and reſpect, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's, &c.

M. Prior.

* The Dutch Ambaſſadors at Paris.

From Mr. Prior *.

MY DEAR LORD,

Verſailles, February 13th, 1714.

UPON what I had diſcourſed yeſterday and this morning with Monſieur de Torcy, I had prepared half the incloſed, and, reſerving the afternoon to finiſh it, was at dinner with the Torcys, the Polignacs, and the Livrys, when Barton came ſtaring in among us: I am ordered by the company to tell you, that as ſoon as we had aſked how the Queen did, we enquired of my Lord Bolingbroke's health, and drank to it in his own Palma wine.

The Queen-dowager, at St. Germain's, was ſo ill on Saturday laſt, that ſhe took what they call here *tous les ſacremens*. She is to-day better, but cannot poſſibly ſo recover as to ſurvive her preſent illneſs long. I thank you for ſending Barton, who makes a very conſiderable figure here, and as to the affairs, will ſcarcely, I preſume, be miſſed; for he knows ſo little, that, as I hope to be ſaved, if he had not brought me letters from the cockpit, I ſhould have ſworn he had never been in England.

Monſieur de Torcy promiſes me very ſolemnly, that he will take the buſineſs of little Villars to heart, as ſoon as he has a day to himſelf: I am ſure you think I do not neglect it, or any thing that you command me.

I am ever, my dear Lord, &c.

MATT.

* Private.

To

To the Earl of Strafford.

My Lord,

Whitehall, February 13th, 1713.

IF I did not write before now, it was becauſe I knew that you went through Flanders, and could hardly arrive at the Hague till this week.

I will begin with the moſt welcome news I can ſend you, which is, that our miſtreſs has recovered to a miracle, and is I think now, at leaſt as well as ſhe was before her late ſickneſs. The faction in London, who ſhowed their joy ſcandalouſly and ſimply, when they believed her dying, think it beſt to ſupport their own hearts, and the hearts of their brethren, by giving out that her Majeſty is ſtill in a very dangerous condition. I cannot help on this occaſion telling you, that when Prior talked of the Queen's recovery, Buys * was wiſe and diſcreet enough, to let him know, he did not believe a word of what he ſaid.

On Tueſday, the Parliament opens by commiſſion; the ſame day, her Majeſty leaves Windſor, will lie, I believe, a night at Hampton Court, and ſpeak at the end of the week, to the two houſes. The clamour which the Whigs raiſe, and the rage which they expreſs, are almoſt without example.

Timorous unexperienced people are alarmed, here and abroad; I make no doubt, but you find thoſe, who meaſure the ſtrength of this party by the noiſe they make. But, my Lord, for my part, I ſleep in perfect tranquillity; we are in the true intereſt of our country, we have no aims which we need be aſhamed to own; the whole body of the Commons is well diſpoſed, and I think we have a majority in the Houſe of Lords. I hope, that in this Houſe we ſhall hang more cloſely together, than we did the laſt year, and that a number of us ſhall con-

* Buys, was then the Dutch Ambaſſador at Paris.

ſtantly and warmly debate every point, that, day by day, the Whigs interpoſe in. This is the true way of ſupporting, as it is of creating a majority, and for this purpoſe, I could heartily wiſh, that you was amongſt us. The great load we have lain under, has been the pretended inſecurity of the ſucceſſion; this I think the Queen has taken an effectual method to remove. Mr. Harley, who will ſet out immediately, has orders, when he renews thoſe aſſurances, which have been ſo frequently given by the Queen, of her firm reſolution to ſupport the ſucceſſion of the family of Hanover, to take notice to the Princeſs Sophia, and to the Elector, that theſe inclinations of the Queen's continuing the ſame, the laws on which their right to the crown is eſtabliſhed, continuing the ſame, and the oaths of the people, in which we are all bound in the moſt ſolemn manner, continuing likewiſe the ſame; it will be very unjuſt, and very diſagreeable to her Majeſty, if they themſelves, or any employed by them, ſhould give the leaſt encouragement or countenance to the clamours raiſed by a faction, who mean nothing leſs than the real advantage of that family, and whoſe only view is to regain the power, which they abuſed, even at the expence of the public tranquillity. He is farther to repreſent, that the Queen determines to bring the queſtion, about the ſecurity of their ſucceſſion, to a ſhort iſſue, and therefore has commanded him to aſk of them, whether they have any additional ſecurities to propoſe? If they have none, he will ſay that the Queen muſt underſtand them to be ſatisfied with thoſe which now ſubſiſt; if they have any, he will promiſe to make a faithful report to the Queen of them; and will add, that he has orders to aſſure them before-hand, that in caſe the propoſals they make, are conſiſtent with the Queen's honour, her ſafety, with the terms of the laws by which the crown is entailed, her Majeſty will not only conſent to, but promote all ſuch propoſals. He is farther to declare, that if the propoſitions, inconſiſtent with theſe three points,

are made in any other place, or by any other perſons, for the Queen will not imagine that propoſitions contrary to her honour, her ſafety, or the law, can come from them, her Majeſty will never yield to theſe, and all her faithful ſervants will, to the utmoſt, oppoſe them. He is to expect an explicit anſwer, before he leaves the Court of Hanover. I make no remarks on this inſtruction, nor on the natural effect of it, both abroad and at home.

The courier is to be ſure arrived, with the ratifications of the Spaniſh treaty of commerce, and we hope ſoon to hear both theſe, and thoſe of peace are exchanged. The alterations made at Madrid, in the treaty of commerce, were eaſily complied with here. In truth, the 3rd article ſtands better than it did, and the ſecurity for levying the exciſes in the 5th and 8th, is what we can in juſtice make no objection to. We are, I believe, obliged to the Princeſs des Urſins, for having this treaty ſent us back in the manner it is; and I beg of you, to let the Spaniſh Miniſters perceive, that the Queen thinks ſo, and that you appear warmly for this Lady's intereſts. As long as this Queen of Spain lives, ſhe will govern her huſband, and as long as the Princeſs lives, ſhe will govern her, ſo that the advantage of flattering this old woman's pride, for her avarice we cannot flatter, muſt be ſolid and laſting.

Mr. Secretary writes on the ſubject of Portugal, and I have ordered a copy of my letter to Mr. Lawleſs to be ſent you; I vow to you, there is nothing that vexes me more, than to ſee that negociation hang ſo long, and a Court no better treated, who threw themſelves into the Queen's hands. I have touched this ſubject, in a letter to the Marquis de Montéleon, who muſt remember how little we expected ſuch difficulties as theſe, which are now on foot, when we prevailed on Portugal to releaſe the Queen from thoſe ſtrong engagements, which ſhe was under, and which otherwiſe muſt have embarraſſed her, and have pre-

vented

vented her from acting in that vigourous manner, by which ſhe forced the peace.

What, in the name of God! will the Dutch do, in the preſent ſtate of the affairs of Europe? The Emperor ſeems, at Raſtadt, to have brought matters to a ſhort iſſue; either the Emperor muſt come into the ſyſtem for a future ſettlement of Europe, on which all the treaties concluded at Utrecht are built, or all thoſe Powers who have treated at the Congreſs, muſt ſubmit to have their whole work unravelled, and new ſeeds be ſown of diſſention; his Imperial Majeſty, as if he was, what he calls himſelf, a Roman Emperor, ſeems to impoſe the latter.

Let me but recommend George to your favour, and aſk your pardon for this long epiſtle, and I have done.

To Mr. Prior.

February 16th, 1713-14.

I OWE you anſwers to one or two private letters, and I owe a thouſand obligations to the good company you was at dinner with, when you writ laſt to me. They are great men, dear Matt, they are from the cradle to the grave in one ſcene of buſineſs, each according to the predeſtination of his parent; they have no affairs but that of their proper departments, and they are accountable to but one maſter, who knows when they ſerve well, and who has power to ſupport and to reward.

Had they as many croſs-grained fellows to manage, as I have been treating with of late; had they twice the buſineſs out of their office, that they have in it; in a word, were they to ſerve without reward, and inſtead of being ſupported by the prerogative of the Crown, were they to form a ſtrength to carry on the ſervice of the public, I am apt

to think, that they would have a better opinion of us, than the part we act in foreign affairs, does perhaps give them.

You aſked me, what was doing in this enchanted Iſland, I have been telling you ſomewhat of it: as to the diſputes and differences among our friends, they will not come in to diſturb the public affairs, at leaſt, no diſatisfaction of mine ſhall, if ever I have any. I may laugh at the fool and the knave that is advanced, and pity thoſe who advance them; but I will never go about to diſtreſs the only adminiſtration I ever liked, the only cauſe I ever can like.

I hope Monſieur de Torcy will take the buſineſs of little Harry Villars to heart; I aſk it of him from the bottom of my heart. Indeed, we have reaſon to be provoked at the proceedings of the Papiſts: there have been lately, attempts to decoy another young man of quality from Weſtminſter School, and you may tell our friend, that I ſhall proceed with ſo much heat againſt ſome of their people in a ſhort time, that he will be apt to take me for a Whig.

Adieu, ever your's.

A Madame la Princeſſe des Urſins.

MADAME,

De Whitehall, ce 19me Février, 1713.

C'EST avec une affliction la plus ſincère & la plus vive, que je prends la plume à la main pour vous faire mes complimens de condolance ſur la mort de votre grand Reine. J'oſe aſſurer votre Alteſſe que ce triſte événement eſt un revers qui détruit toute la joie qu'avoient cauſé ici le rétabliſſement de la ſanté de notre Reine, & l'échange des ratifications qui vient d'être fait à Utrecht. Comme votre Alteſſe voyoit de plus près que qui que ce ſoit, les vertus de cette grande Princeſſe,

ceſſe, & comme elle jouiſſoit de toute ſa confiance & de toute ſon amitié, auſſi doit-elle ſentir plus que perſonne la perte que l'Eſpagne, & que l'Europe, vient de faire. Je n'oſe être plus long-tems importun ; & je me bornerai a ſouhaiter à votre Alteſſe tout ce qui peut contribuer à la ſoulager dans un malheur ſi extrême. Je ſuis, &c.

B.

A Monſieur le Duc d'Aumont.

MON CHER DUC,

De Whitehall, ce 1er Mars, 1713.

SI je n'ai pas plutôt répondu à votre lettre du mois de Décembre, c'eſt que j'ai toujours été dans l'attente de quelque choſe, ou capable de vous amuſer, ou digne de vous entretenir. Mais comme rien de cette nature s'eſt offert juſques ici, j'ai cru ne devoir plus long-tems différer mes très humbles remercîmens de toutes les faveurs dont vous m'avez comblé, de l'amitié que vous me conſervez, & de la manière avantageuſe dont vous avez parlé ſur mon ſujet au Roi. Vous connoiſſez les ſentimens d'un cœur dans lequel, vous avez tant de part, & vous ſavez, Monſieur, que quoique je ſois très capable de ne pas agir de tout, & de couvrir mon indolence du prétexte honorable de Philoſophie, je ſuis pourtant incapable d'agir contre ces ſentimens, dans la moindre bagatelle. L'ambition ne peut conduire qu'à très peu de choſes chez nous, & depuis votre départ je ſens que le goût des plaiſirs diminue conſidérablement. Pourvu que vous ſoyez content de moi ſur le premier de ces deux articles, je ſuis ſûr que vous ne ſerez pas mécontent ſur le dernier. Ne dois-je pas vous faire mes complimens ſur l'heureux dénouement de la négociation de Raſtadt ? Il paroît à nous autres, qui n'enviſageons ces affaires que de loin, que l'Empereur ne peut ſe réſoudre à finir une guerre, ſans établir les fondemens d'une autre ; cette

cette lettre vous ſera rendu ſurement, puiſque je l'envoie par un homme qui m'appartient, & qui va ramener le jeune Villars, que Madame ſa mère a enlevé d'une manière ſi extraordinaire, & avec des circonſtances ſi offençantes pour la Reine. Vous vous ſouviendrez de ce que ſa Majeſté vous a dit ſur ce chapitre ; depuis votre départ l'affaire eſt devenue plus ſérieuſe, & j'oſe vous aſſurer que l'imprudence de Madame de Jerſey, auroit coûté cher à beaucoup de gens de votre religion.

Par tout où je me trouve, le Duc d'Aumont ne ſera certainement oublié, & qu'il me conſerve de même dans ſon ſouvenir, & qu'il s'aſſure que je ſerai toute ma vie, avec paſſion, ſon très humble, &c.

B.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

A Verſailles, le 25me Février, 1714.

LE don de perſuader eſt attaché, my Lord, au deſir d'exécuter les ordres de la Reine, & à l'envie de vous plaire. Je viens de l'éprouver, & j'ai trouvé Madame de Jerſey prête à renvoyer Monſieur ſon fils en Angleterre, auſſitôt qu'elle a ſu la manière dont ſa Majeſté Britannique en avoit parlé depuis peu à Monſieur d'Iberville, & ce que vous aviez encore ajouté. Cette réſolution lui coûte cependant beaucoup de larmes, mais elle croit qu'elle doit obéir préférablement à toute autre conſidération. Elle compte entièrement ſur vous, my Lord, & ſur votre protection pour ſon fils. Elle vous prie d'en prendre ſoin, ſuivant les offres que vous lui en avez faites, de veiller à ſon éducation, d'ordonner qu'on vous en rende compte, de le faire venir chez vous les jours de congé, enfin, de lui tenir lieu de père, & de faire revivre, en la perſonne de cet enfant, toute l'amitié que vous aviez pour le feu Comte de Jerſey.

Quoiqu'elle doive me donner une lettre pour vous, my Lord, je ſatisfais à la promeſſe que je lui ai faite, de m'acquitter auprès de vous de la commiſſion dont elle m'a chargé.

Je voudrois en ſupprimer les plaintes contre Matthieu ; ſon zèle & ſa vivacité à exécuter vos ordres, & ceux de my Lord Tréſorier, l'ont rendu odieux à Madame de Jerſey ; & elle ne veut, à quelque prix que ce ſoit, remettre ſon fils entre ſes mains. Elle vous prie d'envoyer quelqu'un à Paris, à qui elle le confiera, étant ſûre qu'il ſera en bonnes mains, pourvu qu'il ſoit remis à un homme que vous aurez choiſi. Elle vous demande, pour dernière grâce, que my Lord Lanſdown, ni Madame ſa femme, ne ſe mêlent point de l'éducation du petit Monſieur Villars, mettant en vous ſeul, my Lord, & aux bontés de la Reine, ſon unique confiance.

J'eſpère que vous voudrez bien accorder toutes ces conditions, & que cette négociation ſera moins difficile à terminer que celle de Raſtadt.

Monſieur d'Iberville aura eu l'honneur de vous rendre compte des derniers ordres envoyés à Monſieur le Mareſchal de Villars. Ils acheveront la paix, ſi l'on perſuadoit les Allemands en ſe rendant facile, mais il y a des gens qui révoltent contre la juſtice, & contre la raiſon, & qu'on ne rend dociles que par la crainte. Il me ſemble qu'on pourroit aiſément employer ce dernier moyen, lorſque l'intelligence eſt parfaite entre le Roi & la Reine ; & je répondrois bien, my Lord, du ſuccès des inſtructions que vous donnerez ſur ce ſujet.

Permettez-moi de vous apprendre, que Monſieur Buys m'a déjà cité *res eſt ſoliciti* ; vous m'aviez appris ce qu'il faloit répondre, mais j'admire plus que jamais votre préſence d'eſprit, & votre ſang froid, ſans pouvoir l'imiter.

Je vous aſſure, my Lord, que c'eſt toujours avec le même plaiſir que je rappelle tout ce que je vous ai entendu dire, & je ne ſuis pas le ſeul qui regrette le peu de tems que nous vous avons poſſédé.

Je ſuis, &c. DE TORCY.

De Monſieur de Torcy.

De Verſailles, ce 25me Février, 1714.

QUOIQUE je ne doute pas, Monſieur, que Monſieur de Legondez*, Colonel de cavallerie dans les troupes du Roi, ne s'attire de votre part toute la conſidération qu'il mérite véritablement, j'eſpère que vous trouverez bon que je vous marque l'intérêt véritable que je prends à ce qui le regarde, & que je vous demande pour lui les bons offices & la protection dont il pourra avoir beſoin dans ſes affairs en Angleterre, où il s'eſt marié. Je partagerai avec plaiſir les obligations qu'il vous aura, & je vous ſupplie de croire que l'on ne peut deſirer plus que je fais de trouver des occaſions de vous marquer que je ſuis, &c.

DE TORCY.

From Mr. Prior†.

Paris, February 17th-28th, 1714.

YOU will eaſily imagine, my dear Lord, the joy I have in being able to return you our little Weſtminſter ſcholar, who is the braveſt boy alive; the Secretary of State could not keep a more juſt and ſecret correſpondence with any man than he has done with me; and you, Lord Bolingbroke, could not act with Monſieur de Torcy with more ſtrength and with more prudence than he did. Hunter is extremely honeſt, pray do not let him be forgot; I touched but lightly upon his coming over with the child, and ſeeing it did not do, for certain reaſons, I dropt it. He will not ſtay long with the lady after the child comes: I will take care that he has clothes and linen as befits the Earl of Jerſey's ſon and Lord Bolingbroke's kinſman. What I

* He was taken priſoner at the battle of Blenheim, and remained in England a long time before he obtained his liberty.

† Private.

write to you of the man in figure in my other letter is poor, my Lord, —is it not? You will hardly imagine that this little philoſopher's affair at preſent is the talk of all Verſailles and Paris. Adieu, my dear Lord; when you can ſend me a word of comfort, in relation to my own affairs, I know you will; and I aſſure myſelf that you believe me, unalterably, your ſervant,

M. Prior.

Pray let Elcock bring her a pound of Imperial tea.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce 1me Mars, 1713-14.

LA nouvelle que vous avez pris la peine de m'annoncer, Monſieur, par votre lettre du 25me du mois paſſé, m'a fait un plaiſir que je ne ſaurai exprimer non plus que la reconnoiſſance dont je ſuis penétré. En nous rendant le petit réfugié, que ſa mère par excès de tendreſſe alloit ruiner ſans reſource, vous faites une action digne de vous; s'il y avoit du reſſentiment parmi les morts, & ſi ces Meſſieurs nous pourroient communiquer ce qu'ils penſent, vous recevrez ſans faute des complimens du feu Comte de Jerſey. Comme cela ne ſe peut pas, recevez, s'il vous plaît, les miens en qualité d'ami, & de parent de la maiſon de Villars.

Madame de Jerſey peut compter, & je vous ſupplie, Monſieur, de me ſervir dans cette occaſion de garand, que je ne négligerai rien de tout ce qui dépend de moi, pour l'éducation de ſon fils, & pour ſon avancement. Celui que j'ai choiſi pour aller prendre, eſt un garçon qui me ſert d'ecuyer, honnête homme, & dont j'oſe répondre de toutes manières. J'eſpère que Madame de Jerſey lui remettra ſon fils immédiatement, car je lui donne ordre de preſſer ſon retour.

Je

Je ſuis, Monſieur, très convaincu qu'il y a de gens qui ne deviennent dociles que par la crainte, & que la bonne intelligence, qui ſubſiſte entre nos deux cours, nous met en état d'employer ce moyen très utilement; mais eſt-il poſſible que vous en ayez beſoin pour finir votre traité avec l'Empereur? ne dois-je pas, au contraire, vous féliciter de l'heureuſe concluſion des conférences de Raſtadt? L'Empereur paroît à la vérité vouloir, en faiſant la paix, jeter les ſemences de nouveaux troubles, & peut-être ne feroit-il pas mal d'employer, dès-à-préſent même, le motif de la crainte, pour empêcher le progrès de ces beaux deſſeins, que le conſeil d'Eſpagne établi à Vienne, & qui n'a autre choſe à faire, s'amuſe vraiſemblablement à trâmer.

Le compliment que vous me faites, Monſieur, eſt bien flatteur pour moi; ce qu'il y a de ſûr, c'eſt que ſi jamais je puis faire quelque choſe de bon, ce ſera lorſque je me trouve animé par vos ordres & aidé par vos conſeils.

Je ne vous parle pas de nos affaires domeſtiques. Monſieur d'Iberville, dans lequel je prends une confiance telle que vous l'avez ſouhaité, eſt en état de vous donner tous les éclairciſſemens qu'il vous faut. Je crois qu'il vous en dit aſſez pour vous montrer que vous devez nous plaindre au lieu de nous blâmer, ſi les affaires ne vont pas toujours chez nous du train qu'il ſeroit à deſirer. Je ſuis, &c. B.

From Mr. Prior.

MY LORD,

Paris, March 3rd, N.S. 1714.

WE have no news as yet from Germany, nor have I any thing yet to trouble you with, except what the Cardinal de Noailles, and the Counteſs of Jerſey furniſh; one ſpeaks a little like an Archbiſhop in relation

relation to the Pope, and the other begins to own herſelf a ſubject of the Queen. I have free acceſs to Mr. Villars, he goes abroad with me; has books, and what elſe is convenient for him; and now, inſtead of the Lady never being ſeen, ſhe does me the honour to ſend for me, at leaſt once a day, *ſicut erat in principio*; and whether Bohea or Imperial Tea is to be drank, it is all done by Mr. Prior's direction. Is it not beſt that the Queen be intreated in behalf of this ſilly woman, that ſhe may return? I know theſe people well enough, to foreſee that ſhe will be neglected here; I know the little Lady well enough, to foreſee ſhe will be ſtarved. Adieu, my Lord, I am ever, as I ought, your Lordſhip's, &c.

M. PRIOR.

WE have no letters from England, ſince thoſe of the 11th-22d, *i. e.* nine days; and we have reports here, that frighten me all day, and keep me awake all night.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, March 9th, 1713.

YOUR Grace ſhall never have reaſon to repent of thoſe favourable thoughts which you are pleaſed to entertain of me, and to expreſs in your private letter of the 20th of the laſt month, for which I deſire your Grace to accept of my moſt humble thanks.

The vacant biſhoprics are not forgot, but the Queen told me, the other day, ſhe would defer a little longer filling them up; and this is, upon my word, all I know of the matter.

The Queen has done, what the Lords of the Council in Ireland imagined ſhe would do, with reſpect to the petitions from the Aldermen

and

and Sheriffs of Dublin; and to ſpeak plainly to your Grace, the Lords of the Council here, are very unwilling to offer any opinion to her Majeſty on Iriſh affairs, till they have been maturely conſidered on your ſide, and come to us fully ſtated and clearly reported upon.

Some mutinous proceedings at Gibraltar, as well as others, which are apprehended, make it neceſſary to loſe no time in changing that garriſon, and two regiments will be drawn from Flanders for that ſervice. The other is to go from Ireland, as in my other letter, I have the honour by the Queen's command to acquaint your Grace, to which I am to add, that conſidering how much faction has got among the troops, it would be agreeable to her Majeſty, if your Grace named a regiment for this ſervice that you looked upon to be tainted with it.

Clayton's has been ſpoke of as ſuch an one, beſides which the battalion has not been abroad all the war, and is an old one, which will ſtand in peace.

This intimation in a private manner to your Grace, the Queen judged proper.

I hope ſoon to have the honour of kiſſing your Grace's hands, in London, and am for ever, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, March 9th, 1713.

IT would be impertinent in me to go about to offer any conſolation to your Lordſhip, who are much better able to call to your own aſſiſtance, under the preſent affliction, whatever religion or philoſophy can ſuggeſt, than I am to furniſh you with reflections drawn from either. It only remains, therefore, that I condole with your Lordſhip on the great

loſs

loſs you have ſuſtained, and that I aſſure your Lordſhip, as I am able with the utmoſt truth to do, that no friend your Lordſhip has can take more ſincere part in your ſorrow than I.

The petitions and caſes of the Aldermen and Sheriffs, which were ſome days ago received here, are now returned to you by the Queen's command, that ſo her Majeſty may have the ſenſe of her Privy Council, and all her ſervants, in Ireland, before her, whenever ſhe takes into conſideration, what theſe refractory gentlemen have thought fit to repreſent.

I know your Lordſhip will take care to have the whole very clearly and fully reported; and indeed, my Lord, this care is highly neceſſary, ſince no good diſpoſition is wanting among your friends on this ſide, and ſince you may be aſſured of the utmoſt ſupport from home, provided the means of giving it are furniſhed from you.

Nothing can be more certain, than that the party, in all parts of both kingdoms, are driving things, as far as they are able, to confuſion; honeſt men muſt be as induſtrious to preſerve the peace of their country, and if the church intereſt will lay aſide their jealouſies and reſentment; unite heartily together, and have a confidence in thoſe of their friends, who put themſelves foremoſt in trouble and danger, for my own part, ſhall hope, that we may ſee good days; but, certain it is, my Lord, that nothing leſs than this can preſerve us from confuſion.

The truſt her Majeſty repoſes in your Lordſhip, is what you have intitled yourſelf to, by that vigorous and upright diſcharge of your duty, which drew the rage of the Whigs upon you.

I hope, and am firmly perſuaded, that the Queen will in every inſtance obſerve the ſame rule.

The power of the Crown is low, but I muſt believe, that a proper uſe of what remains will get the better of faction. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, March 23rd, 1713.

IN anſwer to ſeveral of your's, I had begun a very long letter to your Lordſhip, but having been hindered from finiſhing and diſpatching it in due time, by which means many articles are now become ſtale and out of uſe, I chooſe to begin afreſh, and to trouble you with nothing but what is proper at the preſent time.

The Queen has the gout in her ankle, as the phyſicians expected and deſired; ſhe is extremely well, and we may indulge ourſelves with the hope, that the fatal day of her death, is ſtill at a diſtance from us.

It is indeed, my Lord, ſurpriſingly ſtrange, that alliances with Denmark, Pruſſia, or any other foreign power, can be eſteemed at Hanover, as true expedients for ſecuring the ſucceſſion to the crown of Britain. Our laws, our oaths, a juſt concern for our religion and liberty, will keep the nation firm and ſteady in their adherence to a Proteſtant, and in their oppoſition to a Popiſh Prince. But if a pretended danger of the ſucceſſion ſhall be made uſe of, to introduce foreign forces amongſt us, the object of men's fears may come in time to be changed. Britain muſt not on any account be made the theatre of confuſion; our crown has been given, but our country muſt not be conquered; and they are the worſt enemies of the Houſe of Hanover, who go about to perſuade them, that the latter is either neceſſary or practicable. The Houſe of Lords adjourned laſt Friday, till Wedneſday come ſevennight. The Commons will probably adjourn in a day or two, till the ſame day. In both Houſes there are the beſt diſpoſitions I ever ſaw, but I am ſorry to tell you, that theſe diſpoſitions are unimproved; the Whigs purſue their plan, with good order, and in concert.

The Tories ſtand at gaze, expect the Court ſhould regulate their con-

duct, and lead them on, and the Court ſeems in a lethargy. Nothing, you ſee, can come of this, but what would be at once the greateſt abſurdity, and the greateſt misfortune.

The minority, and that minority unpopular, muſt get the better of the majority who have the ſenſe of the nation on their ſide. All that can be done is doing, to prevail on our friend, my Lord Treaſurer, to alter his meaſures, to renew a confidence with the Tories, and a ſpirit in them, and to give a regular motion to all the wheels of government. I am ſanguine enough to hope that we ſhall prevail. Indeed, it would be pity to loſe by management, what none can wreſt by force out of our hands.

I write thus freely to you, becauſe in ſuch conjunctures eſpecially, you ought not to be ignorant of the true ſtate of affairs at home, and becauſe I know that the part I ought to act towards a friend, I may ſafely act towards a man of honour. You ſhall hear again from me, the moment I ſee through the preſent confuſed workings of court and party.

I am ſorry that you have had no anſwer from Count Sinzendorf; ſince the Emperor has made a ſtep, though a very aukward one, which looks like acquieſcing in the ſyſtem formed for the future ſettlement of Europe, it would ſurely be right, that the Queen had a Miniſter at his Court. The Earl of Scarſdale has been ſome time named, and would be diſpatched thither, could the way be a little prepared for him.

If the French pretend to affirm, that the Queen has been, in any degree, a party to the negociations at Raſtadt, or conſulted in them, they are wrong. Communication has, indeed, been given her of the plans ſent from Prince Eugene, and when the counter-projects were returned from Verſailles, Monſieur d'Iberville has ſhown them here. You ſee, my Lord, in this account all the truth. On this head, give me leave to

to aſk, with what face can the Dutch or the Germans complain, that the Queen has done no more?

They removed, at leaſt the Germans did, the Congreſs from Utrecht. They eſtranged themſelves from the Queen, and excluded her from the ſecret of their councils. Could ſhe ſo much as take upon her indirectly the part of a mediatrix, and common friend, in theſe circumſtances? For inſtance, you know, better than any one, how far the Queen carried the point of aboliſhing that ſcandalous clauſe in the 4th article of the treaty of Ryſwick. The hands of France were tied. It remained only to oblige the Emperor to bring things back to the tenor of the treaty of Weſtphalia. Would the Dutch, would the Proteſtant Princes and States of the Empire, take any meaſures in concert with her Majeſty, to induce the Court of Vienna to this reaſonable compliance, and could the Queen have interpoſed for this purpoſe ſingly, without expoſing herſelf (forgive the expreſſion) to contempt?

My father makes his acknowledgments to your Lordſhip, in the letter I incloſe.

Allow me to aſſure you, that I will ever remember the kind and generous part you took upon you, in behalf of my brother, and that in every circumſtance of life, you ſhall find me a true friend and faithful ſervant.

I expect George very ſoon over, and will apply for Mr. Ayerſt, according to your orders. I believe Mr. Secretary Bromley will concur with me. Touch on this ſubject in your firſt letter to him.

Adieu, my dear Lord,

I am, &c.

B.

To the Duke of Shrewsbury.

MY LORD, Whitehall, April 13th, 1714.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the favour of your Grace's private letters, of the 27th of the laſt month, and 1ſt of this.

I have obeyed your commands to Lord Angleſey, with whom I think it is very deſirable to maintain a good correſpondence, though we have had the misfortune lately to ſee him differ from us in a very public and remarkable manner *. It gives me great ſatisfaction to hear, that we ſhall ſoon have your Grace on this ſide of the water.

I hope you will find the Queen's affairs on a better foot, though they will ſtill be in want of your Grace's wiſdom and experience. Indeed, my Lord, the Court and Parliament have been hitherto the ſcenes of greater confuſion, than I was ever witneſs of; indefatigable pains have been taken, to ſet right what was become, by the moſt unaccountable manner, amiſs. I think we ſhall this week break, as it is called, the neck of the Seſſion, and, I hope never to ſee ſuch another.

I ſay nothing on the ſubject of Clayton's regiment, ſince proper care, according to what your Grace deſires, will be taken in the War-office.

I have nothing to add, but my hearty wiſhes for your proſperous voyage, and my ſincere aſſurances of being, with the utmoſt reſpect and truth, my Lord, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

* Upon the queſtion, whether the Proteſtant ſucceſſion was in danger? he ſpoke for, and voted with the oppoſite or Whig party.

To

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

MY LORD,

Whitehall, April 13th, 1713.

THE ſentiments which your Lordſhip expreſſes, in your letter of the 30th of the laſt month, are worthy of you.

Union among thoſe who wiſh well to be the conſtitution, in Church and State, is, to ſpeak in the language of Secretary, a condition *ſine quâ non*.

The proſpect before us, is dark and melancholy, what will happen, no man is able to foretell, but this propoſition is certain, that if the members of the Church of England, lay aſide their little piques and reſentments, and cement cloſely together, they will be too powerful a body to be ill treated.

I make no doubt but your Lordſhip has heard of ſome differences which ſubſiſt amongſt us, at this time, for my part, I will go any length to reconcile them, but one. I cannot ſit ſtill under the opprobrious reflections, which the Whigs caſt daily forth; nor be treated as a criminal, when I am conſcious myſelf, of having deſerved well, of my part, of my country.

Could I be of any ſervice to Dean Clayton, I would with much pleaſure attempt to ſerve him, both on account of your Lordſhip's recommendation, and on account of my acquaintance with his brother, with whom I ſat many years in the Houſe of Commons.

The hurry, which a buſy and warm Seſſion of Parliament occaſions, has hindered the declaration of your Biſhops; but by what the Queen was pleaſed to ſay the laſt time I ſpoke to her on this ſubject, I conclude that the nomination is determined. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From

From Mr. Prior.*

My Lord,

Paris, March 12th-23d, 1714.

MR. Bright, who found me on Tueſday night, at Verſailles, brought me your Lordſhip's, of February 28th, together with the Queen's ſpeech. To begin with politics, I think the ſpeech the beſt I ever read, and I truſt in God, it will have the greateſt effects: our friend Torcy, had received it the day before, by an expreſs from Monſieur d'Iberville, but he read it again with me, and gave me leave to comment upon it. In ſhort, the two parties here (for ſuch we have as well as our neighbours) look upon it, as what will produce the advantages we expect from the peace, and improve a fair correſpondence between the two nations. The news of the peace with the Emperor will, I doubt not, come very opportunely at the beginning of the Seſſion, in ſuch manner as to give eyes to the blind, and ſave even the reprobate.

I ſend your little Kinſman to you in the manner you deſire, and am very glad your Lordſhip is ſatisfied with every ſtep I made in that affair: Monſieur de Torcy ſhowed me your letter to him, and as he acted like a man of great honour upon the occaſion, I find him pleaſed, that his having done ſo, is ſo rightly underſtood, and ſo kindly taken by you.

The child has no mind to be boarded longer with Mrs. Horden; your Lordſhip will concert that and all his matters to his ſatisfaction. I muſt again do juſtice to the poor people, Mr. Hunter and Mrs. Bourgois; they are both reſolved to leave their Lady, and return for England: the Lady ſeems as willing to be rid of them; till ſhe has got French ſervants, theſe ſhall not leave her; but how ſoon French ſervants will

* Private.

be

be weary of her, or how ſoon ſhe will be weary of herſelf here, is not in my power to determine. Pray, my Lord, let ſome little thing be done for Hunter, for he has behaved himſelf, as well towards the child, as towards myſelf, with integrity and prudence; la Bourgeoiſe too, has a good deal of merit in this thing.

I ſhould now acknowledge the private letter of 16th February, but what ſhall I ſay, except what I have heard ſo often, *non progredi eſt regredi*. England muſt be ſaved, my Lord, and it cannot be done either by fools or cowards; though both theſe ſects of Philoſophers will find all imaginable faults with you, while you are doing it; and will wonder why they are not recompenſed when it is done; they tell you, every thing is dangerous to attempt, and when perfected, they always thought it would be ſo: what is the ſubſtance of all this, my dear Lord? that you muſt do your duty, that you muſt think that duty proportioned to the great abilities God has given you, and that you moſt give your chagrin to the waves and wind. Whilſt I ſay this to you, whom I ought to love, and whom I do love moſt heartily, am I without poſſibly more than my ſhare of trouble and apprehenſion? conſidering the whimſical circumſtances of my fortune, the uncertain ſituation of my affairs, and my mind conſtrained to put itſelf into ten thouſand poſtures, as the caprice of every man that comes from your inchanted iſland requires. From Selkirk of Châtelhérault to the Jerſey Saints and St. Germain's Beggars, through life it is the ſame, my Lord, and you and I (pardon the familiar conjunction) muſt bear the importunity, the unreaſonableneſs, and impertinence of the world, or you muſt go to Bucklebury, and I to St. John's *, which, however diſproportioned the retreat may be, let us make it, my dear Lord, as late as ever we can. Adieu, I am, my Lord, inviolably your ſervant,

MATT.

* College, Cambridge.

You

You are in the right my Lord, when you obſerve, that people who ſerve here are rewarded; Mareſchal Villars, the day he ſaw the King, had the favour of coming always near him, which is not allowed to all the Princes of the Blood, and his ſon has the *ſurvivance* of the government of Provence.

From Mr. Prior *.

MY DEAR LORD,

Good-friday, 1714.

YOUR affair of Captain Parker would aſtoniſh me, if I had not had three or four of the like in my life. I ſhall obey your orders very punctually, as to what relates to the King of Sicily's intereſts. I have more than I thought I ever ſhould have done, concerning fiefs, upon the diſpute between that Prince and Monaco. I cannot conceal from you, as a friend and a juſt man, that I apprehend the King of Sicily's claim to be vague and vexatious enough; but, before I enter into the determinative part, I will ſend the material point ſtated, and beg your advice; in the mean time time, as Lecheraine's complaint is groundleſs, let me add too that it is not very fair: a new ſolicitation, when the matter is referred to arbitrage, would be cenſured by Judge Hales, and condemned by Mr. Hooker; but this only to you, my dear Lord.

Another thing touches me infinitely nearer; I mean the laſt paragraph of your letter: inflammation, pain, indiſpoſition, are words which frighten me out of my wits, eſpecially as expounded by Jacobite and Dutch commentators here. Good God! in caſe of an accident, what is to become of us all?—And, as I hinted to you, what is to become particularly of your poor friend and ſervant Mat, in all caſes?

* Private.

Pray give a word of comfort, or chide me for aſking it. Adieu, my Lord; believe me, your's, &c.

MATT.

From Mr. Prior.

Paris, April 2d-13th, 1714.

BY what I have ſent you incloſed, I hope, my dear Lord Bolingbroke, I ſhall hear no more of ſluices "till Shiloh comes." What are ye all doing in England, and (as theſe people aſk me) who are the Government? For my own part, I hear nothing from that merry iſland, but that you, I, and all our friends, are called rogues and raſcals all the day long, and in every coffee-houſe—*Quouſque tandem?*

Monſieur Deſmaretz has helped poor Monſieur Calendrini eſſentially, and will continue to do the ſame. I affected to go yeſterday to Verſailles, when I had nothing to do, knowing I ſhould find Monſieur Deſmaretz there, to thank him, in your name, upon Monſieur Calandrini's account: I find he took the viſit very kindly, and renewed his promiſes of helping our friend. I proteſt to you, I have as much ſatisfaction as if it had been done to myſelf. Adieu, my Lord,

Your's entirely, MATT.

From Mr. Prior.*

MY LORD,

Paris, April 16-27th, 1714.

I ONLY write to you becauſe it is poſt-day, having nothing to tell, but that we are all in admiration at what you have been doing in England, and that in particular I pity thoſe whoſe buſineſs it muſt be to keep others in their ſenſes.

* Private.

The Pretender, abandoned by France, yet dreaded from Luneville and Bar-le-Duc, by thoſe men who made a jeſt of King James attacking us, though ſupported by this kingdom, and either at St. Germain's or on the coaſt of Normandy, ſeems a paradox, till one tells Monſieur de Torcy that thoſe men were then in power, and are not ſo at preſent; but a Popiſh Emperor to be invited into the guaranty of a Proteſtant ſucceſſion, is ſomething that I wiſh I could explain—*Dic aliquem, dic Quintiliane, colorem.* I cannot leave this ſubject without telling you, that de Buys laughs at us. Every place has its ill: while many at Weſtminſter are troubled in their political perſons, the Pariſians ſuffer extremely in their natural bodies, a fever rages here that comes very near to a plague; and almoſt all day, and in every ſtreet, one ſees the preparations or marches of a funeral; the diſtemper began among the meaner people, and was generally attributed to the ill-diet they are forced to take up with, all proviſions being at a dearth incredible, but it goes farther, and death (according to its uſual cuſtom) makes no diſtinction. In the mean time, all are well at Marli; and ſo am I, God be thanked! at Paris. I am, in all places and conditions, with great truth, my Lord, your's, &c.

M. Prior.

To Mr. Prior.

Whitehall, April 20th, 1714.

IF you have not heard oftener from me, on the ſubject of our domeſtic affairs, the reaſon has been, becauſe I could not tell what to write that would have been intelligible to you. Since we are at a loſs how to account for our own proceedings, it is no wonder that you foreigners are in the dark concerning them.

You are in the right, dear Matt, when you ſay, that thoſe who

cannot bear the impertinence and unreaſonableneſs of the world, ought to retire. But give me leave to add, that thoſe who can bear theſe, and a thouſand other faults of this naughty world, are likewiſe in the right to retire, when by their patience they neither do honour to God, ſervice to their Prince, good to their country, nor kindneſs to their friends; you will apply this general obſervation as you judge proper.

The Whigs have affronted the Queen, and teaſed her ſervants almoſt a month without control; at laſt a ſpirit has been exerted, which ſhould, in my poor opinion, have been ſooner ſhown, and they have been defeated in all their attacks, though fortified by a conſiderable detachment from our party.

The danger of the ſucceſſion, and the inſecurity of the peace, were the two principal articles of clamour; one has been voted not in danger, and the other has been declared ſafe, honourable, and advantageous; the diviſions in the two Houſes upon theſe occaſions have made our numbers leſs, but our ſtrength greater.

I am extremely obliged to you, for the good natured part you take in Mr. Calandrini's affairs; continue, I intreat you, your friendly protection to him, and ſay from me to Mr. Deſmarais, whatever you think may be of uſe to that afflicted family.

I thank you, for *père* Daniel and Tillemont, but you forgot my Voyages.

Adieu, dear Matt, my compliments to all our friends, particularly to Monſieur de Torcy, for whom I ſhall always preſerve the greateſt eſteem.

No man loves you better, or is with greater ſincerity your faithful ſervant.

To the Earl of Strafford.

My Lord,

I WRITE to you by ſnatches as I can, and you muſt therefore excuſe me, if my anſwers are not exactly apt to the letters I receive from you, your laſt is not now before me.

I cannot reflect on what paſſes here, without blaming and commending at once, in my own thoughts, our adminiſtration. Had we dared in the laſt Seſſions, as we have done in this, to oppoſe at the ſame time the Whigs, and thoſe who detach themſelves occaſionally from us, the peace had been long ago ſanctioned, commerce opened with France, and the cry about the Proteſtant ſucceſſion ſilenced. The reverſe of this we did, and the reverſe of this happened.

But, my Lord, to ſtand for more than a month the ſevereſt inquiſition, into the conduct of three the buſieſt years of a century; to account not only for what has been done, but alſo for every ſtep by which it was done, neither to divert enquiries by the common artifice of Courts, nor to ſkreen ourſelves behind the throne; theſe conſiderations give me, I confeſs, ſome ſatisfaction, ſince the concluſion of all is, that the oppoſers have been able to fix no blame, nor to charge any one man: on the contrary, we have wound up the whole enquiry by an addreſs of the Houſe of Lords, in which the Commons will join, on Thurſday next, to expreſs our ſenſe of her Majeſty's goodneſs to her people, in delivering them, by a ſafe, honourable, and advantageous peace with France and Spain, from the heavy burden of a conſuming Land War, unequally carried on, and become at laſt impracticable; and to entreat her Majeſty, that ſhe will be pleaſed, with the ſame ſteadineſs, to purſue ſuch meaſures as ſhe ſhall judge proper, notwithſtanding any obſtructions which have been, or may

be

be thrown in her way, to complete the ſettlement of Europe according to the principles laid down in her Speech from the Throne.

I need make no comment on theſe words, they confirm all that is paſt, and cut off all hopes from thoſe, who endeavoured to hinder the peace, if unravelling it now it is made, which, in the debate, was the profeſſed deſign of thoſe who ſpoke.

I make no doubt but your Lordſhip will improve this, both with the Imperialiſts and the Dutch.

The Queen has forbid Monſieur Schultz * the Court, and ſurely with reaſon; this gentleman thought fit to demand, of my Lord Chancellor, the writ for the Duke of Cambridge, without the decency of giving her Majeſty the leaſt intimation of it, or ſo much as making her a compliment, which ſhe might expect from a Prince of her Blood, who intended to come into her kingdom.

Indeed, my Lord, at this rate the diſpute will not be between the Houſe of Hanover and the Pretender any more; the Queen will become a party; and they are no friends to the Proteſtant ſucceſſion, who adviſe ſuch meaſures as force her to be ſo. Whether the Duke of Cambridge will come, now his writ is delivered, or whether it was aſked only in hopes it would be refuſed, I know not; but ſurely to come hither with an air of defiance to the Queen, and on the foot of a party, is the unwiſeſt and moſt unneceſſarily deſperate reſolution that ever yet was taken. The bulk of this nation will be true to their oaths, but they will, among theſe oaths, in the firſt place remember that of allegiance to the Queen.

Mr. Harley is ordered to demand the recall of Schultz, and Lord Paget will be going to Hanover very ſoon, to bring that Court, if poſſible, to a better notion of their own intereſt.

* The Hanoverian Envoy.

SINCE

April 23rd, 1714.

SINCE I wrote thus far, Schultz is gone from hence, the purpoſe of his voyage we know not, but if we may believe what is given out, his errand is to preſs the coming of his young maſter.

Your letter of the 1ſt of May, came yeſterday to my hands, and I do not wonder that people in Holland were confounded, and even you perplexed. The former part of this letter accounts for the general ſtate of things.

As to the diſputes between my Lord Treaſurer and me, it is certain we were not of the ſame opinion. I hope, and believe, my Lord is my friend; certain it is that I have in this Seſſion ſhown myſelf his friend, the particulars of which you will hear from others, better than from me. Among friends it may be owned that there was ſome talk of laying down, but the Queen over-ruled that ſtart of paſſion, and my Lord has now the ball at his foot to drive as he pleaſes.

I own to your Lordſhip, I think we are now, though leſs in number, ſtronger than we ever were, becauſe the utmoſt detachment of wavering people is made, and the troops that remain are firm and to be depended upon. We have it in our power to give the law at home, and in great meaſure abroad too.

I defer ſpeaking to you on Foreign affairs, till next week, after the committee and the council have ſat.

Adieu, my dear Lord, &c. B.

Mr. Decker will order twenty piſtoles to be ſent to your Lordſhip's Secretary, next poſt, which, I beg, he may give to the woman who teaſes you ſo much.

A Madame

A Madame la Princeſſe des Urſins.

MADAME,

De Whitehall, ce 23me d'Avril, 1714.

SI, malheureuſement la guerre entre les deux nations eut continué juſques à préſent, telle étoit l'idée que nous avions conçu des vertus de votre incomparable Reine, que j'oſe répondre à votre Alteſſe, que ſa mort n'auroit été pleurée en aucun pays avec plus de ſincérité que dans la Grande Bretagne. Vous jugerez par-là, Madame, de la vive douleur que nous avons reſſenti en perdant une Princeſſe qui avoit non-ſeulement contribué à faire la paix, mais de l'influence de laquelle, nous nous promettions de voir confirmer de plus en plus cette union étroite, que la Providence de Dieu n'a permis d'être interrompue pendant quelques années, que pour marquer d'autant plus ſenſiblement aux Eſpagnols & à nous autres, combien il eſt de l'intérêt commun de la conſerver dans ſon entier, & d'empêcher que les brouilleries du reſte de l'Europe n'y donnent de l'atteinte.

Il n'eſt pas à propos que je parle à votre Alteſſe des ſentimens de la Reine ſur ce triſte ſujet. Sa Majeſté qui écrit elle-même au Roi Catholique ſaura mieux dépeindre & ſes réflexions ſur le paſſé, & ſes vues pour l'avenir, que je le pourrois faire. Mais votre Alteſſe me donnera, s'il lui plaît, la permiſſion de lui dire deux mots ſur un ſujet dont Monſieur Lawleſs eſt inſtruit, & dont il aura l'honneur apparemment de lui écrire plus en détail. Votre Alteſſe ſe ſouviendra que nous avons repréſenté d'ici, à pluſieurs repriſes, la crainte que nous avions que divers traités & accommodemens reſtant imparfaits, & la négociation générale par conſéquent trop ouverte, la Cour Impériale & les autres ennemis de la paix par dehors, & les factieux ligués avec eux dedans ce Royaume, trouveroient à la longue les moyens de ſuſciter de nouveaux obſtacles au rétabliſſement de la tranquillité publique. En effet, ils y ont travaillé

April 23rd, 1714.

SINCE I wrote thus far, Schultz is gone from hence, the purpoſe of his voyage we know not, but if we may believe what is given out, his errand is to preſs the coming of his young maſter.

Your letter of the 1ſt of May, came yeſterday to my hands, and I do not wonder that people in Holland were confounded, and even you perplexed. The former part of this letter accounts for the general ſtate of things.

As to the diſputes between my Lord Treaſurer and me, it is certain we were not of the ſame opinion. I hope, and believe, my Lord is my friend; certain it is that I have in this Seſſion ſhown myſelf his friend, the particulars of which you will hear from others, better than from me. Among friends it may be owned that there was ſome talk of laying down, but the Queen over-ruled that ſtart of paſſion, and my Lord has now the ball at his foot to drive as he pleaſes.

I own to your Lordſhip, I think we are now, though leſs in number, ſtronger than we ever were, becauſe the utmoſt detachment of wavering people is made, and the troops that remain are firm and to be depended upon. We have it in our power to give the law at home, and in great meaſure abroad too.

I defer ſpeaking to you on Foreign affairs, till next week, after the committee and the council have ſat.

Adieu, my dear Lord, &c. B.

Mr. Decker will order twenty piſtoles to be ſent to your Lordſhip's Secretary, next poſt, which, I beg, he may give to the woman who teaſes you ſo much.

A Madame

A Madame la Princeſſe des Urſins.

MADAME,

De Whitehall, ce 23me d'Avril, 1714.

SI, malheureuſement la guerre entre les deux nations eut continué juſques à préſent, telle étoit l'idée que nous avions conçu des vertus de votre incomparable Reine, que j'oſe répondre à votre Alteſſe, que ſa mort n'auroit été pleurée en aucun pays avec plus de ſincérité que dans la Grande Bretagne. Vous jugerez par-là, Madame, de la vive douleur que nous avons reſſenti en perdant une Princeſſe qui avoit non-ſeulement contribué à faire la paix, mais de l'influence de laquelle, nous nous promettions de voir confirmer de plus en plus cette union étroite, que la Providence de Dieu n'a permis d'être interrompue pendant quelques années, que pour marquer d'autant plus ſenſiblement aux Eſpagnols & à nous autres, combien il eſt de l'intérêt commun de la conſerver dans ſon entier, & d'empêcher que les brouilleries du reſte de l'Europe n'y donnent de l'atteinte.

Il n'eſt pas à propos que je parle à votre Alteſſe des ſentimens de la Reine ſur ce triſte ſujet. Sa Majeſté qui écrit elle-même au Roi Catholique ſaura mieux dépeindre & ſes réflexions ſur le paſſé, & ſes vues pour l'avenir, que je le pourrois faire. Mais votre Alteſſe me donnera, s'il lui plaît, la permiſſion de lui dire deux mots ſur un ſujet dont Monſieur Lawleſs eſt inſtruit, & dont il aura l'honneur apparemment de lui écrire plus en détail. Votre Alteſſe ſe ſouviendra que nous avons repréſenté d'ici, à pluſieurs repriſes, la crainte que nous avions que divers traités & accommodemens reſtant imparfaits, & la négociation générale par conſéquent trop ouverte, la Cour Impériale & les autres ennemis de la paix par dehors, & les factieux ligués avec eux dedans ce Royaume, trouveroient à la longue les moyens de ſuſciter de nouveaux obſtacles au rétabliſſement de la tranquillité publique. En effet, ils y ont travaillé

vaillé, pendant les dernières ſéances du Parlement, avec une application ſurprenante; & ont fait leurs derniers efforts, pour détourner la Reine de la pourſuite des meſures qu'elle a priſe, & pour leſquels ſa conduite a été réglée depuis plus de trois ans. Ils n'ont pas réuſſi; tous leurs deſſeins ont échoué, & les deux chambres ſe ſont déclarés d'un tel ton ſur la paix, & ſur les moyens les plus propres de la rendre univerſelle, que la Reine ſe trouve (ſi j'oſe me ſervir de cette expreſſion) plus que jamais maîtreſſe de ſes actions.

Dans la chaleur de ces conteſtations, il eſt arrivé une choſe, qui a fait beaucoup de peine à ſa Majeſté. Il y a du tems qu'on tâche d'animer le peuple en ſuppoſant des intrigues trâmées en faveur du Chevalier de St. George. La réſidence de Monſieur Lawleſs à notre Cour a été alléguée comme un fait ſur lequel ces ſoupçons étoient appuyés. La conduite de ce gentilhomme a été ſans reproche; il a mérité l'eſtime & la confiance de tout ce qu'il y a d'honnêtes gens; ceux-là mêmes, qui paroiſſoient les plus emportés dans cette occaſion, ne pouvoient refuſer à ſon caractère les louanges qui lui ſont dûes. Mais il étoit né ſujet de la Reine, & il avoit ſervi feu ſon père. Votre Alteſſe, qui n'eſt pas accoûtumée aux convulſions, que les gouvernemens populaires reſſentent de tems en tems, ſera peut-être ſurpriſe du récit que je lui fais. Ces déſordres ſont les mauvais effets d'une très bonne cauſe, & on ſe dédommage par l'une de ce que l'on ſouffre par les autres. La Reine a cru que pour calmer les eſprits, & pour les mener au but qu'elle ſe propoſoit, ce prétexte, dont nos factieux ſe ſervoient, devoit leur être ôté. Mais les égards qu'elle a, & qu'elle veut toujours conſerver pour le Roi Catholique, la jettoient dans un grand embarras.

Dans cette ſituation des affaires, j'ai pris le parti de m'ouvrir à Monſieur Lawleſs lui-même. Comme il connoît parfaitement bien la conſtitution de ce royaume, & le génie de ce peuple, il eſt tombé d'accord avec moi, qu'il rendroit à la Reine un ſervice très eſſentiel, & par

conſéquent qu'il ne déplairoit point au Roi ſon maître s'il faiſoit ſemblant d'avoir reçu des ordres de la Cour de ſe rendre auprès des Miniſtres d'Eſpagne qui ſont en Hollande. Je ne puis pas exprimer à votre Alteſſe combien la Reine a été ſenſible à cette marque de ſon bon ſu, & de ſon zèle pour le ſervice. Elle m'a chargé d'en écrire à votre Alteſſe, & de la prier de continuer à Monſieur Lawleſs, qui en eſt digne de toutes les manières, de ſa puiſſante protection.

Monſieur de Bingley, que la Reine a nommé pour être ſon Ambaſſadeur Extraordinaire auprès du Roi d'Eſpagne, partira en huit jours. Il n'y a rien que la Reine ſouhaite tant que de lier une correſpondance avec ſa Majeſté Catholique, qui ſe trouve rarement entre les Princes; & pour cet effet, elle a choiſi de toute ſa Cour le ſujet le plus propre. Sur le ſujet des Catalans & des Majorcains, votre Alteſſe veut bien que je me remette à ce que Monſieur de Bingley aura l'honneur de lui dire. A l'égard de ſa ſouveraineté, la Reine prendra au Congrès de Bade, & par tout ailleurs les plus efficaces, pour l'accompliſſement de la garantie qu'elle a donnée, & pourvu que la France veuille tenir, tant ſoit peu, ferme ſur cet article, je ne doute point qu'il ne ſoit réglé à la ſatisfaction de votre Alteſſe dans le prochain traité. Je ſuis, &c.

B.

A Monſieur le Marquis de Montéleon.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 27me d'Avril, 1714.

L'INDISPOSITION dont j'ai été accablé depuis quelques jours, m'empêche non-ſeulement de vous écrire de ma propre main, mais auſſi m'obligera de vous parler plus ſuccinctement que je n'avois deſſein, ſur la ſituation préſente de nos affaires. Monſieur Lawleſs,

qui vous va trouver, ſuppléera fort amplement à ce dernier défaut. Vous ſerez peut-être ſurpris de le voir, mais quand il vous aura rendu compte de ce qui eſt paſſé chez nous, & des raiſons qu'il a eu de prendre la réſolution de paſſer en Hollande, je ſuis très perſuadé que vous ſerez du ſentiment, qu'il a agi en homme de bon ſens, & qu'en contribuant à donner un heureux fin aux ſéances de notre Parlement, il n'a pas laiſſé de ſervir utilement ſon maître. Dans les gouvernemens qui ont quelque mêlange de la démocratie, il devient très ſouvent raiſonnable de céder à des demandes déraiſonnables; & pour pouvoir conduire le gros des affaires au but qu'on ſe propoſe, il eſt quelquefois néceſſaire de calmer les eſprits par des complaiſances, qui ne ſont de la prudence, ni même de la bienſéance. J'écris à un Miniſtre connu aux affaires du monde, ainſi je ne doute pas, Monſieur, que vous ne jugerez ſainement de ce qui vient d'arriver, & que vous ne faſſiez à votre Cour une repréſentation juſte de ce contretems, qui doit aſſurément être plus ſenſible à nous qu'à vous.

Il eſt certain, Monſieur, que la grande facilité que la France a montré, aux conférences de Raſtadt, a fait prendre à l'Empereur un air de ſupériorité, nullement proportionnée à l'état où il ſe trouvoit; après quoi il n'eſt pas étonnant que les Hollandois donnent des marques les plus outrées de leur ſoumiſſion à la maiſon d'Autriche.

Vous me citez un exemple de cette ſoumiſſion dans leur conduite, par rapport à la ſouveraineté de Madame la Princeſſe des Urſins: je pourrois vous en citer d'autres, où ils traitent la Reine, pour le moins auſſi cavalièrement que le Roi d'Eſpagne; & où, pour faire leur cour à l'Empereur, ils ſacrifient les intérêts de leur religion, & ceux de la généralité de l'Europe. Il faut tâcher d'inſpirer d'autres ſentimens aux Miniſtres de cette République; & pour y réuſſir, il faut trouver les moyens de rendre la Cour de Vienne plus traitable; permettez-moi de vous dire, avec franchiſe, qu'à cet effet, il faut plus de ſuppleſſe dans votre

Cour, & plus de fermeté dans la mienne ; travaillez, Monſieur, s'il vous plaît, à l'un, pendant que je travaille à l'autre.

Monſieur de Bingley partira dans ſept ou huit jours, pour Madrid ; au nom de Dieu, que le Roi ait la bonté de prendre en lui quelque confiance. Il ſera en état de faire des ouvertures d'une plus étroite liaiſon entre nos deux Cours, & de certaines meſures qui, malgré l'opiniâtreté des uns, & la facilité des autres, termineront, à la fin, toutes choſes, ſi je ne me trompe fort, à la ſatisfaction de ſa Majeſté Catholique. En attendant, Monſieur le Comte de Strafford, agira de nouveau auprès des Miniſtres de l'Etat, & la Reine ſe ſervira, le plus utilement qu'elle peut, des villes qui lui ont été miſes en dépôt, & de la ceſſion des Pays-Bas, faite par Monſieur l'Electeur de Bavière qu'elle a entre les mains, pour aſſurer à la Princeſſe des Urſins cette ſouveraineté, dont le Roi d'Eſpagne ſouhaite qu'elle jouiſſe.

Mandez-moi quand nous devons eſpérer de vous voir ici, & faites-moi la juſtice d'être perſuadé, que je ſuis, &c.

B.

To the Earl of Strafford.

April 27th, 1714.

THOUGH I find others, who are expoſed to leſs trouble and leſs danger too, in our domeſtic ſtruggles, on account of them, forbear giving a due attention to foreign affairs, yet, my Lord, I cannot make uſe of the ſame pretence. Beſides the public good, the honour of the Queen, and the reputation of thoſe who have been entruſted by her, are, methinks, ſo deeply concerned in perfecting the whole ſcheme of the peace, that I look as ſtedfaſtly as ever at the ſame point of view, which we have all along had.

The letters from your Lordſhip, which Mr. Secretary Bromley laid before the Queen yeſterday, affect me a great deal. I ſee the ſettlement of Europe hangs, I ſee a new air of ſuperiority aſſumed by the Imperialiſts, yielded to by the French, and ſubmitted to by the Dutch. Nothing, in my opinion, can effectually determine all parties to conclude, can put an end to old differences, and prevent new ones, but a vigorous way of acting in our Court, and ſhowing our allies either that there is no oppoſition to the Queen's meaſures, or that the ſtrength, which is formed, will be ſo ſteadily and ſo vigorouſly exerted, as to render all oppoſition vain.

To this purpoſe, I have laboured this Seſſion, more than ever I did in the whole courſe of my life; and in the utmoſt confidence I will ſay to you, that the ſtand which was made, which occaſioned ſuch rumours abroad, and which, I never expect to be forgiven by ſome at home, forced us out of our ſleeping indolence, and occaſioned the new turn which affairs in both Houſes have taken.

If good uſe is made of this advantage, we may reſtore our credit, and give a due weight to the Queen's influence; if we revert into our former management, we ſhall grow contemptible, both here and every where elſe: this I take to be a true ſtate of the caſe; but, however, my Lord, let us act like men of courage and public ſpirit; let thoſe who guide the helm anſwer for the courſe of the ſhip, but let us hand the ſails, and do our part of the work, without reproach.

Mr. Whitworth will be immediately diſpatched into the Empire: I prevailed laſt night, that he ſhould not be ordered directly to Baden, which might have expoſed him to make a very mean figure, the French and Imperialiſts being locked up there, as they were at Raſtadt, and no aſſembly of the Miniſters of the Princes of the States of the Empire being formed: he will ſtay a few days in Holland, and proceed to Frankfort, and, if occaſion be, to Augſberg.

The

The Proteſtants will ſee that the Queen is in good earneſt to ſupport them, if they are not wanting to themſelves, in caſe they take this ſtep, on her Majeſty's part, as they ought to do, repair to Baden, and demand what the treaties of Weſtphalia entitle them to, and what France has promiſed not to oppoſe: Mr. Whitworth may repair to Baden too, and act with the dignity which becomes the Queen's Miniſter. But if they blindly give up their religious as well as civil intereſt to the Emperor, Mr. Whitworth will not go to Baden, to expoſe his character.

Some good may reſult from his journey, even in the latter caſe; for, beſides the reputation to the Queen of having gone the utmoſt lengths in ſo good a cauſe, he will have an opportunity of feeling the pulſes of the ſeveral powers, of diſcovering how far their diſpoſitions may be reconciled to that ſcheme, which her Majeſty muſt purſue; in a word, on what terms the Queen may renew her correſpondence with all of them, and particularly with the Court of Vienna.

As to the condition of Sweden, I lament it, from the bottom of my heart; and there is no doubt but in good policy, as a trading, as a Proteſtant nation, we ought to do our utmoſt to prevent the ruin of that kingdom, which does not ſeem to be at the diſtance of many months. But, my Lord, what can you expect, when we dare not truſt ourſelves to ſtand alone? In our preſent circumſtances, you will ſee, by Mr. Secretary's letter, all the Queen is adviſed to ſay or do, which, God knows! is next to nothing. If Pruſſia would interpoſe ſo far, as to prevent the conqueſt of Sweden this ſummer, I think we may be in a condition, at leaſt I hope it, to ſupport that enterprize, and to interpoſe with the Northern allies before the end of the year.

It is ſurprizing that the States will, on neither of theſe heads, concur with the Queen, ſince it is certain that, united with her, they might act ſafely on both, and that a ſtrict friendſhip between her Ma-

jeſty

jeſty and them, is a ſure, as well as a more honourable, way of obtaining what they expect from the Emperor, than that which they follow—a ſervile, mean ſubmiſſion to him.

But I confeſs to you, my Lord, my wonder ceaſes at theſe things, when I hear they entertain thoughts of ſettling their barrier at Vienna, without allowing the Queen the opportunity to take care of herſelf or them. This is a note above *è la*; this is keeping no meaſures, and declaring they will keep none. For God's ſake, my Lord, ſpeak very ſeriouſly, and very plainly, on this ſubject, and let them not imagine that the Queen wants their aſſiſtance. She has reſources in this caſe, if ſhe is puſhed to extremity, and will be able to aſſert her own honour, and to ſecure the intereſt of her ſubjects; but, as one that wiſhes well to the States, as one who thinks the intereſt of the two nations depend on their union, divert them from ſuch a reſolution.

I know the eaſe on one ſide that this ſtep of the States will give us, but the inconveniencies are greater on the other.

It is ridiculous to ſee the peace of two nations hang on the ſovereignty of Madame des Urſins, and I hope it will not do ſo much longer. In the mean time, we muſt humour the King of Spain, and keep up the appearance of ſupporting our engagements: if the point is loſt, let France have the odium of loſing it, as, in good meaſure, they have already.

I had ſomething elſe to have ſaid to you, but being called away, your Lordſhip is reprieved till next poſt. Adieu, my dear Lord; preſerve me your friendſhip, and be aſſured that I will be ever the ſame.

T.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

May 18th, 1714.

I WAS hindered by unavoidable buſineſs, which intervened, from writing to your Lordſhip laſt week, and am now in debt very conſiderably to you.

For God's ſake, do not excuſe the complaining air with which you ſpeak, in one of your letters, concerning the preſent ſtate of foreign affairs; if you find fault with yourſelf for being on this account uneaſy, you reproach me ſeverely. I have been under the utmoſt vexation of mind, and I have not concealed it, to ſee our influence abroad, and even before the general negociation; and there is no ill-conſequence of our domeſtic diſorders which has touched me ſo ſenſibly as this, at leaſt no one of thoſe by which I have been perſonally affected.

I agree with your Lordſhip in the fact you repreſent, and in the cauſes you aſſign; but the main cauſe of all, that which muſt be altered, or no other remedies can prove effectual, is our home economy: till the Queen's government is on a ſtable foot, and thoſe who ſerve her are, by their authority, as well as their perſonal character, *hors d'inſulte*, little reverence will be paid, either at home or abroad, to the adminiſtration, little dependance on it will be ſhown, and we ſhall hope in vain to ſee the natural and genuine effects of that great work, which your Lordſhip had ſo great a ſhare in accompliſhing, produced. That the Queen may be able to bring this to paſs, I moſt heartily wiſh, for the honour, for the quiet of her own reign, and for the happineſs of our country; and if it be brought to paſs, I aſſure your Lordſhip it ſhall be indifferent to me by what hands it is ſo.

The little I could do, I have done honeſtly, zealouſly, indefatigably,

towards

towards this end; the conſciouſneſs of which will be a reward to me, and I have learned to expect no other.

Mr. Whitworth's inſtructions are ready, and will be ſigned, I believe, in a day or two; after which I know nothing to keep him here. I do not aſſume any merit to myſelf, in the thought of not ſending him directly and abruptly to Baden, but am proud that it was your Lordſhip's, and that I happened to fall on the ſame.

I am heartily glad to find, by your Lordſhip's of the 25th, that there are at preſent no farther thoughts entertained of ſending the Duke of Cambridge over, and I am glad of it, becauſe I wiſh well to the Proteſtant ſucceſſion. Parties may find their account in a conteſt between her ally and the Houſe of Hanover, but ſurely the plain intereſt of this Houſe is to live well with the Queen, and, after her deceaſe, to aſcend the throne with a national concurrence, and not be handed to it by any particular ſet of men.

For my own part, my duty and allegiance are to the Queen, during her time, and my reſpect ſhall be paid the ſucceſſor in no manner which is inconſiſtent with that firſt obligation. After the Queen, if I live after her, I will be true to my principle, and to my call, at the expence of all I have: theſe are the ſentiments of the beſt and honeſteſt men, and will be found to be ſo, whenever the trial ſhall be made. I am not fond of ſpeaking on any ſubject concerning myſelf, and eſpecially on this, becauſe what I profeſs and ſwear to be for, he that believes me to be againſt, ſhall never make me think it worth my while to go about to convince him. But to you, in friendſhip, I ſay thus much, becauſe, among thoſe artifices, which I deteſt and deſpiſe, it has been thought proper to inſinuate to the world, that I leaned to another intereſt, and that the diſputes which have lately happened at Court were occaſioned by the favour of ſome men to the Pretender's

cauſe;

cauſe; and then your ſervant has been named with ſuch others as deſired method, concert, perſpicuity, ſteadineſs, and vigour in the Adminiſtration. Something has happened, a few days ſince, which relates to this head, and which you will perhaps hear of, with a wrong turn; I will, therefore, take up ſo much more of your time, as to ſtate it truly to you: In the Select Committee, where eſtimates are prepared for the Houſe of Commons, a demand was ſilently introduced of the arrears due to the Hanover troops, and Mr. Auditor Harley attending, with three or four more, early one morning, it was ordered to be reported to the Houſe, as an article of this year's ſupply. Till then I knew nothing of this tranſaction, and the Queen was entirely ignorant of it; as ſoon as it came to me, I declared to my friends, who aſked my opinion, that the method of proceeding was entirely wrong; that I thought it inexcuſable to the Queen, and not very honourable to the Houſe of Hanover; that the appearance to the world would be very odd, if a vote of Parliament ſhould paſs, to pay what her Majeſty declared ſhould not be paid, without any intermediate ſignification of the Queen's having altered her firſt reſolution; that, in ſo particular a caſe, it was no excuſe to ſay, that all the particular items of the ſeveral eſtimates are comprehended in the general demand made for a ſupply from the Throne at the beginning of a Seſſion; that therefore this article ought to be poſtponed, till her Majeſty's pleaſure was known; and that if ſhe pleaſed to ſignify her deſire to have this ſum given, it ſhould be voted with the unanimous conſent of the Houſe, which certainly would be more agreeable to the Elector, than the obtaining it by a ſide-wind, and by ſuch an aukward proceeding as is never uſed but in unjuſtifiable caſes. This ſeemed ſo agreeable to the ſenſe of our friends, that they reſolved to conduct themſelves accordingly, and no mention would have been made of the thing yet a-while, had not the Whigs precipitated

the debate, and brought it on laſt Thurſday; the conſequence whereof was, that upon the diviſion it was laid aſide, without being rejected, by the reſolution of leaving the Chair. I am ſure, if right meaſures are taken, the Queen will recommend this payment to the Houſe, and I took the liberty to adviſe Monſieur Kregenberg *, to apply in form for ſuch a recommendation; then, my Lord, the money will be voted without a negative, but elſe, I think, it will be hardly obtained. If a compliment is to be made, let the Queen and Parliament make it. Surely no man, no ſet of men, ſhould take ſo much upon them. Whatever colour this proceeding may be repreſented under to you, depend on what I write to be the truth, and all the truth. I know you to be a man of honour, and my friend, and therefore, I account for my conduct in this manner to you, that you may juſtify me to yourſelf, and to others too, if you find it needful.

I am ſorry that Lawleſs gives you no better ſatisfaction, and do aſſure you, that he has no grounds to value my facility on that head of Portugal. I have told him my opinion very frankly on that head, and ſeveral others, and have often repeated to him, that the Court of Spain would not have been in a condition to make theſe difficulties now, had the Queen not, ſome time ago, acted for them, in a confidence that they would have been more reaſonable, and more under her influence.

I forgot to tell your Lordſhip, in the former part of this letter, that I wondered as much as you, at Mr. Harley's haſte to leave Hanover, in this point of time; for my Lord Paget is ſtill here; and that I am entirely ignorant of his reaſon, or the orders he has had.

The Queen was ill on Saturday night, of an indigeſtion, and ſome degree of fever, but ſhe is now extremely well again, and will, I believe, return to Kenſington in a day or two.

* The Hanoverian Reſident.

And

And now, my dear Lord, let me ſay a word or two concerning that part of your former letter, which relates to yourſelf. In the firſt place, I will ſerve you in your own way on every occaſion, where I can be uſeful to you, and therefore, in the next place, you muſt allow me to tell you frankly my thoughts, according to the beſt judgment I have.

Hitherto, I have not ſeen that your embaſſy to France, was adviſable on the Queen's account, or your own. It was fit you ſhould finiſh thoſe affairs you had begun, and carried on; it was fit, not to flatter you, that a man of your quality, ſpirit, experience, and induſtry, ſhould continue, at leaſt till now, in Holland. It is not fit that you ſhould reſide at the Court of France, until ſome perſon of an equal character is appointed, and actually ſent from thence to the Queen; and though the Marquis d'Aligre was named, yet, if I miſtake not, he was intended only to be Ambaſſador in ordinary; and, beſides, I believe, the thoughts even of his coming hither are laid aſide, at leaſt, we hear no more on the ſubject. Theſe are the conſiderations which weigh with me, and I ſubmit them to you. At the ſame time, if a Miniſter of quality, and of the ſame character with yourſelf, ſhould be named for our Court by that of France, I ſhould not heſitate a moment about your going to Paris.

I do aſſure your Lordſhip, I will be a faithful ſolicitor for Mr. Donneban, and that is all I have in my power. I defer anſwering a letter which your ſiſter * did me the honour to write me, till I can do it to ſome purpoſe. Adieu, my dear Lord, ever your ſlave.

BOLINGBROKE.

The article out of the Leyden Gazette, is very ſcandalous, I would give a good ſum to know from what villain the writer had his intelligence, which is equally falſe and ſilly. I ſubmit to your Lordſhip, how far you will judge proper to take notice of the treatment, which

* Probably Arabella, married to Lord Bellew of Ireland.

your friend, and the Queen's ſervant meets with; a fact of public notoriety may be falſely repreſented, and a Gazetteer may be impoſed upon; but he who prints an account of what is pretended to have paſſed in Council, muſt know that he avers what he can have no foundation for. On this occaſion, I muſt touch a particular, which I once ſpoke of to Van Borſele, but he is ſo heavy a creature, that he apprehends nothing. Hermitage, a pedling réfugié newſwriter, is a ſort of agent for the States in this town. His relations, by every poſt, I ſee, and I ſuppoſe your Lordſhip does ſo too; they are one continued thread of miſtake, blunder, and lie. Is it poſſible, that the Miniſters of Holland, can receive any advantage from ſuch correſpondence? can there be any reaſon for employing ſuch a wretch, unleſs they deſire that their Gazetteers ſhould be furniſhed with falſe accounts of men and things? Surely, this article is of ſome conſequence, if they are willing to heal the wounds which have been made, and bring the two nations once more to a cordial union.

To the Duke of Shrewſbury.

My Lord,

Whitehall, May 20th, 1714.

I CONVEYED to the Queen your Grace's commands, concerning Lord Blaney, by the firſt opportunity after I received them, but found her Majeſty already engaged to recommend Lord Ferrers's ſon to your Grace. I ſhould have given you this account ſooner, but that I miſlaid the minute, and had quite forgot the thing, till yeſterday, among other papers, I chanced to light on this memorandum.

I hope we ſhall not be much longer deprived of the happineſs of ſeeing your Grace on this ſide the water.

We ſay our Seſſion will end in three weeks, and I think, it cannot well be ſpun out beyond Midſummer, though there are, I am certain,

certain, private inſtructions to ſome people to lengthen it as much as poſſible.

I beg your Grace to be perſuaded, that I am, with the utmoſt reſpect and truth, my Lord, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From Mr. Prior.*

MY LORD,

Paris, April 24th—May 5th, 1714.

THE Duke of Berry died yeſterday morning, at three o'clock, in the twenty-eighth year of his age; he has only one daughter, and the Ducheſs is with child. A general melancholy reigns in every body's face and diſcourſe upon this occaſion; but your Lordſhip knows theſe people well enough, to take it for granted, that three days will put an end to any ſorrow that they are capable of receiving; the ſame being, as you know, the feſtival of St. George, and of her Majeſty's coronation, I had all the Engliſh, *i. e.* Britiſh Nobility and Gentry, to dine with me. The news of this Prince's death made our joy leſs noiſy, than otherwiſe it would have been, by the diſmiſſion of our trumpets and violins; but in every other circumſtance, our entertainment was very magnificent; and perhaps, my Lord Treaſurer, may ſay, too expenſive: *n'importe*, my Lord, with all this it is pretty hard to ſatisfy fifty Britons, even while you treat them; ſo God help every body that has to do with the public.

If it may pleaſe God to preſerve the health of our great and good Queen, the founder and occaſion of our feaſt, may he diſpoſe of the lives of all other Princes and Potentates of Chriſtiandom, as ſeems meet to his Providence.

* Private.

Laſt

Laſt Thurſday's, *i. e.* Thurſday ſe'nnight's letters are come in, by which I have not one word from England; but I hear from Monſieur de Torcy what makes my heart ache; however, I endeavour to palliate it, I am, ever, &c.

M. PRIOR.

P.S. If the Queen ſends any man of great quality to condole upon this occaſion, I find it would be agreeable to the Duke of Richmond to have that commiſſion.

From Mr. Prior *.

MY DEAR LORD AND FRIEND,

Paris, 1ſt-12th May, 1714.

MATTHEW had never ſo great occaſion to write a word to Henry as now; it is noiſed here, that I am ſoon to return. The queſtion that I wiſh I could anſwer to the many that aſk, and to our friend Colbert de Torcy (to whom I made your compliments in the manner you commanded) is, what is done for me, and to what I am recalled? It may look like a bagatelle, what is to become of a philoſopher like me; but it is not ſuch, what is to become of a perſon who had the honour to be choſen, and ſent hither as intruſted, in the midſt of a war, with what the Queen deſigned ſhould make the peace; returning with the Lord Bolingbroke one of the greateſt men in England, and one of the fineſt heads in Europe (as they ſay here, if true or not, *n'importe*) having been left by him in the greateſt character (that of her Majeſty's Plenipotentiary) exerciſing that power conjointly with the Duke of Shrewſbury, and ſolely after his departure; having here received more diſtinguiſhed honour than any Miniſter, except an Ambaſſador, ever did, and ſome

* Private, by Mr. Barton.

which were never given to any, but who had that character, having had all the ſucceſs that could be expected, having (God be thanked!) ſpared no pains; at a time when at home the peace is voted ſafe and honourable; at a time when the Earl of Oxford is Lord Treaſurer, and Lord Bolingbroke firſt Secretary of State, this unfortunate perſon, I ſay, neglected, forgot, unnamed to any thing that may ſpeak the Queen ſatisfied with his ſervices, or his friends concerned as to his fortune.

Monſieur de Torcy put me quite out of countenance, the other day, by a pity that wounded me deeper than ever did the cruelty of the late Lord Godolphin; he ſaid he would write to Robin and Harry about me: God forbid, my Lord, that I ſhould need any foreign interceſſion, or owe the leaſt to any Frenchman living, beſides decency of behaviour, and the returns of common civility. Some ſay I am to go to Baden, others that I am to be added to the Commiſſioners for ſettling the commerce; in all caſes I am ready, but in the mean time, *dic aliquid de tribus capellis*: neither of theſe two are, I preſume, honours or rewards, neither of them (let me ſay to my dear Lord Bolingbroke, and let him not be angry with me) are what Drift may aſpire to, and what Mr. Whitworth, who was his fellow-clerk, has or may poſſeſs. I am far from deſiring to leſſen the great merit of the gentleman I named, for I heartily eſteem and love him: but in this trade of ours, my Lord, in which you are the General, as in that of the ſoldiery, there is a certain right acquired by time and long ſervice. You would do any thing for your Queen's ſervice, but you would not be contented to deſcend, and be degraded to a charge no way proportioned to that of Secretary of State, any more than Mr. Roſs, though he would charge a party with a halbard in his hand, would be content all his life after to be a ſerjeant; was my Lord Dartmouth from Secretary returned again to be Commiſſoner of trade, or from Secretary of War, would Frank Gwin think himſelf kindly uſed to be returned again to be Commiſſioner? In ſhort, my Lord, you have put me above myſelf, and if I

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am to return to myſelf, I ſhall return to ſomething very diſcontented and uneaſy; I am ſure, my Lord, you will make the beſt uſe you can of this hint for my good. If I am to have any thing it will certainly be for her Majeſty ſervice, and the credit of my friends in the Miniſtry, that it be done before I am recalled from hence, leſt the world may think either that I have merited to be diſgraced, or that ye dare not ſtand by me; if nothing is to be done, *fiat voluntas Dei.*

I have writ to Lord Treaſurer upon this ſubject, and having implored your kind interceſſion, I promiſe you, it is the laſt remonſtrance of this kind, that I will ever make. Adieu, my Lord, all honour, health, and pleaſure to you.

Yours ever, MATT.

P.S. Lady Jerſey is juſt gone from me; we drank your health together in Uſquebaugh, after our tea; we are the greateſt friends alive. Once more adieu. There is no ſuch thing as the books of Travels you mentioned, if there be, let friend Tilſon ſend us a more particular account of them, for neither I nor Jacob Tonſon can find them. Pray ſend Barton back to me, and I hope with ſome comfortable tidings.

From Mr. Prior.*

MY LORD,

May 1ſt-12th, 1714; ten at night.

BARTON was at St. Dennis, with the incloſed packets, when he met Smith, who brought me your Lordſhip's of the 27th April, with my letters of revocation. General Hill had writ to me from Dunkirk, and upon it I had ſpoke to Monſieur de Torcy, and am to-morrow to go

* Private, by Barton.

to

to Marli upon that ſubject; in the mean time, I refer your Lordſhip to what I have already writ, and with which I diſpatch Barton away again: I hope he will bring me a word of comfort, for as yet my own poor affairs look very untowardly.

I am ever, my Lord, &c.

M. PRIOR.

Les affaires importantes au-dedans du royaume: I would fain know what they are.

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*From Mr. Prior *.*

Paris, May 7-18th, 1714.

YOU will find by Lady Jerſey's incloſed letter, that ſhe has a mind to return to England, at leaſt for ſome time; it will certainly be beſt for her, for (to ſay the truth on't) they begin to grow very weary of her here; but how far ſhe deſerves the Queen's pardon and kindneſs, or how convenient it may be for you to intercede in her behalf, I am not able to judge: all that I know is, that ſhe has always done perverſely, and I have alternately quarrelled and been friends with her, for twenty years together; and ſo it muſt continue, for I do not find that any body alters.

Pray ſend gaping Barton back again, and let me have your particular commands by him, which ſhall always be executed as they ought to be, by yours ever,

M. PRIOR.

* Private.

From Mr. Prior *.

Paris, 12th-23d May, 1714.

BARTON is come, and I thank you, my dear Lord, for your three private letters; as to the firſt, God help us all, I will do my duty; and though like the fellow in the Scripture, I cannot dig, and am aſhamed to beg—*Parlons d'autres choſes*.

I have inculcated to our friend Torcy what you write to me, relating to the ſtate of our trade conferences, and I believe your private letter will have the effect we deſire, and which I write word in my public diſpatch. God bleſs you for keeping Barton till you enabled him to bring me what has quaſhed the various reports we had here upon the ſubject of the Queen's health. It is a long time, my Lord, that I have practiſed to diſſemble, under a face, not handſome, but ſeemingly pleaſed enough, a heart melancholy enough. I will think all will be right, and beg you to believe it is one of the greateſt bleſſings of my life that you think me your friend; and I aſſure you, I am, with the greateſt zeal, your ſervant,

M. P.

From Mr. Prior †.

Mem. to LORD BOLINGBROKE.

Paris, May 12th-23d, 1714.

AMONGST other things which I ſhould do, before I leave France, ſhould not I have your order to ſay ſomething from the Queen, to the Elector of Bavaria? of which I find he is in great expectation.

Should not I likewiſe ſay ſomething immediately from yourſelf to

* Private.

† Private.

Monſieur

Monſieur de Torcy? If I gave a letter from you to Monſieur Deſmaretz, *novi hominis mores:* in which you would acknowledge his kindneſs to Monſieur Calandrini, it might facilitate that gentleman's affair, and be of ſervice to his family. I know the hurry of your affairs in England is ſuch, as not to give you a moment's time to think of theſe ſort of matters, and that I might with equal reaſon deſire a Sea-captain in a ſtorm to ſettle accounts with me: do therefore, my Lord, what you think beſt, believing only that in what I hint I intend for the beſt, and that as I have hitherto gone on civilly with theſe people, I would leave them in the ſame manner.

To the Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

My Lord,

Whitehall, May 20th, 1714.

THE multitude of buſineſs which I have had upon my hands, is the true reaſon why your Lordſhip has not heard more punctually from me, and the multitude of buſineſs in which you muſt have been involved, will make your Lordſhip the more eaſily excuſe this omiſſion.

It is with reaſon, that your Lordſhip expreſſes your ſurpriſe at our late unhappy diviſions, and that you lament the bad conſequences, which are naturally to be expected from them. Before this Parliament ſat down, nay, before the laſt Parliament roſe, the miſchief, which a want of union among the Tories, and a want of concert between the Court and the party would produce, was very apparent. I hoped, indeed, that the violence of your Iriſh Whigs had wrought a good effect. I ſaw plainly that it awakened thoſe who ſeemed the moſt ſecure, and had in the proper place rouſed a ſpirit of keeping no meaſures with that faction, which kept none with the Crown.

I hoped, therefore, that the whole Church intereſt would, as one

man, have laid hold of this favourable conjuncture, to ſupport the Queen, excluſive of all other aſſiſtance, to veſt all power in themſelves, and by theſe means to eſtabliſh themſelves for the preſent age, and for futurity. To theſe purpoſes, the beſt I could do was done; and my Lord Angleſey, who was privy to all tranſactions, and in confidence with whom, I aſſure your Lordſhip, I have always been particularly deſirous to act, is able to tell you, that ſome of us were empowered to give from the Queen, the utmoſt aſſurances, that an honeſt Tory heart could wiſh to receive. It happened that this made no impreſſion, and as long as the ſucceſſion remained in danger, nothing elſe was, it ſeemed, to be regarded. This danger of the ſucceſſion was the ſubject of many private debates, and very fatally, in my opinion, to the Church, cauſe of ſome public debate too. I could never hear any ſymptoms of danger advanced, which were in any degree proportioned to the apprehenſions expreſſed, and when it was aſked what remedy, what farther ſecurity ſhould be provided, thoſe who expreſſed their fears, had none to offer, but expected that they who ſaw no diſtemper ſhould preſcribe a method of cure.

I confeſs to your Lordſhip freely, that this appeared new to me, and forced me to make ſeveral reflections, which I was unwilling to entertain in my thoughts, and which never ſhall go farther.

Your Lordſhip feels, I queſtion not, the effects of theſe unhappy turns, we feel them with a witneſs here, and our domeſtic affairs are not alone diſtracted by them, but they operate abroad too, and the want of peace in Britain is, for ought I know, the chief obſtruction to the general peace of Europe at this time.

I ſhould, perhaps, aſk your Lordſhip's pardon for troubling you with this melancholy account, but you are not to be frightened, or even diſcompoſed by danger; and I am ſure, the appearance of it to your country, in any ſhape, will only ſerve to animate you the more in the

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ſame good cauſe, which you have, to your laſting honour, hitherto ſo ſteadily purſued.

Though your Lordſhip's letter, and that which my Lord Duke of Shrewſbury writ to me, in favour of my Lord Blaney, came to my hands before I had heard any other way of the vacancy in Mr. Kellum's regiment, and though I ſpoke to the Queen, on the very firſt opportunity, yet her Majeſty had been applied to by my Lord Ferrers, in behalf of his ſon, who is, I ſuppoſe, in Ireland, and had promiſed to order me to write to Ireland in his behalf. This, I ſhould have done ſome time ſince, but having miſlaid the minute, by ſome accident or other, till this poſt, I forgot to mention it to my Lord Lieutenant.

The other perſons whom your Lordſhip has been pleaſed to recommend to me, are ſure of my beſt ſervices. I wiſh for their ſakes, that my power was equal to the inclination I have to obey your orders ſucceſsfully, and to approve myſelf, by all poſſible ways, my Lord, &c.

BOLINGBROKE,

To Mr. Laws.

SIR,

Whitehall, May 24th, 1714.

THIS comes only to acknowledge, with thanks, the trouble which you have taken on my recommendation of Mr. Plat and Mr. Brown to you.

As to the former, I employed him once, and he did not ſucceed, yet having no reaſon to complain of his conduct, I was deſirous to procure him ſome eſtabliſhment, which is now by your favour compaſſed, and the man is off my hands.

As to the other, I have obſerved a good deal of affection and zeal for the intereſt of his country, and am told, that during the whole courſe

of the war, he has been particularly ſerviceable in giving intelligence to the Admiralty. Theſe conſiderations moved me to recommend to you, the making ſome proviſion for him, and will, I dare ſay, prevail with you to ſerve him in the beſt manner you can.

I deſire you to be perſuaded, that I am ſenſible of the regard you have ſhown to my requeſt, and that as I have been, ſo I will continue to be, Sir, your faithful humble ſervant,

BOLINGBROKE.

From Mr. Prior *.

Paris, June 2d-13th, 1714.

I HAVE little to add to my public diſpatch, but that I daily expect a word in private from you.

This inſurrection at Lyons is very near the Cevennes; and you will judge what ill effects it muſt have in regard to the Proteſtants, as the tumult at Dublin will (theſe people think) have in regard to the Papiſts. "Will you protect ſedition?—will you countenance murder?" ſays little Torcy, in great warmth: "thoſe very people whom we have releaſed from the galleys, are, for aught we know, in arms againſt the King. Are they not the greateſt enemies the King has?—are their brethren in England the Queen's friends? *Dites à my Lord Bolingbroke, que c'eſt eux qui lui couperont le gorge.*" "*Ecrivez-cà vous-même, Monſieur de Torcy.*" "*Oui, ſur mon honneur, je le ferai, Monſieur Prior.*" Pleaſant dialogues theſe. Adieu, my dear Lord.

There are ſome points in which I cannot agree with Monſieur Amelot, in the affair of Roccabruna and Menton; if he does not come to, muſt it lie in compromiſe fourſcore years longer? or *que faire?*

* Private.

To

To Don Patricio Lawleſs.

SIR,

Whitehall, June 21ſt, 1714.

YOU know enough of the life I lead, during a ſeſſion of Parliament, to excuſe me if I am not exactly punctual in my correſpondence. The letter which you ſent me from Monſieur Grimaldo has been laid before the Queen, and I tranſmit to you the original, and a copy of the anſwer which I writ, by her Majeſty's command, to that Miniſter, that you may pleaſe to forward the former to Madrid, and that by peruſing the latter you may be fully apprized of the Queen's ſentiments. Monſieur Grimaldo having writ to me in Spaniſh, my anſwer to him is in Engliſh; not ſo much on account of punctilio, as becauſe I cannot write in the Spaniſh tongue, and am ignorant whether he underſtands the French.

I have this day told the French Miniſter, by the Queen's command, that her Majeſty is not a little ſurprized to find ſo much weight laid on the point of obliging the Catholic King to depart from a demand, which, after the declarations he had made, his honour was, in ſome degree, concerned to ſupport, and which her Majeſty had likewiſe, at his and the Moſt Chriſtian King's requeſt, entered into a guaranty for; and, at the ſame time, to obſerve ſo little concern ſhown for the finiſhing a treaty (I mean that between Spain and Portugal) which every man that reflects coolly and impartially on the circumſtances of affairs, as they ſtood when the King of Portugal departed from his pretenſions of a barrier, and thereby put it into the Queen's power to act in the manner ſhe did, the benefit whereof redounded to Spain in an eminent degree, muſt think the Catholic King's honour and juſtice concerned to finiſh, as well as the Queen's.

My Lord Bingley, has been diſpatched ſome time by me, his equi-

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page is, I hear, on board, and I ſuppoſe his journey will not be much longer retarded: in the mean while, I could heartily wiſh that you was there, ſince for want of a juſt idea of the ſtate of affairs on this ſide of the world, and particularly for want of having the dark perplexed ſtate of our proceedings in this kingdom, clearly accounted for to them, it is very poſſible your Miniſter at Madrid, may take wrong meaſures, and inſenſibly contribute to that ſcheme of reviving old quarrels, and running into new confuſion, which the Emperor openly purſues, and which the Dutch have indirectly too much encouraged.

I hope the Queen's letter to the Catholic King, will in a day or two be finiſhed; I have not failed to put her Majeſty in mind of it, and the moment it is ready, I will tranſmit it to you.

For the reaſons I have touched above, and for many others, the Marquis de Montéleon's journey hither, ought to be quickened.

The open Trade, which the French continue to carry on to the Spaniſh Weſt-Indies, as well in the North as the South Seas, begins to make very great noiſe; and, although this practice may be magnified in ſome inſtances, yet we certainly know, that there is but too much foundation for complaint, according to thoſe particulars which you ſee I mention in my letter to Monſieur Grimaldo, and according to others which I have not there touched upon.

Since the writing thus far, I have received your letter of the 26th of June, by which you acquaint me of your departure from Holland: Mr. Prior will take care to deliver this to you, if it comes in time to Paris, otherwiſe he will put it into the hands of the Spaniſh Secretary, to forward it to Madrid.

If the negociation with Portugal is to be transferred to the frontier of that country, I wiſh that climate may inſpire more peaceable diſpoſitions than have appeared at Utrecht; indeed, Sir, the manner in which the Queen has all along proceeded with the Catholic King, de-

ſerves

ſerves at leaſt that he ſhould, in conſideration of her, not ſuffer a peace, which her honour is concerned to ſee concluded, to be any longer kept open.

Mr. Worſley, the Queen's Envoy at Liſbon, in his letter of the 12th of June, acquaints me with what the Marquis de Bay, had writ to Don Diego de Mendoça, and with the King of Portugal's reſolution thereupon. It is very natural for this Prince to reſolve not to conclude his peace, but under the Queen's mediation, and with her guaranty; and I ſhould think, that the Catholic King has had no reaſon, from the part the Queen has acted, to prefer any mediation to her's, or to refuſe thoſe facilities, which ſhe aſks of him, to put an end to a treaty which has lain ſo long, I may ſay unjuſtifiably, open.

I ſhall certainly write to you, in a poſt or two at fartheſt, and I hope then, without fail, to ſend you the Queen's letter to the King.

I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

From Mr. Prior *.

MY LORD,

Paris, July 4th, 1714.

THE Chancellor Pontchartrain, gave up the Seals on Monday, reſolving to retire, and dedicate the remainder of his life to his devotion and his friends; and yeſterday the King gave the Seals to Monſieur Voiſin: the place of Secretary of War is not yet diſpoſed of.

I have no immediate commands from your Lordſhip, and I write, according to the Earl of Arlington's rule, only to tell you I have nothing to write. I am, ever, &c.

M. PRIOR.

* Private.

To Don Patricio Lawleſs.*

SIR,

Whitehall, July 5th, 1714.

THE incloſed copy of my letter to Monſieur de Grimaldo, will acquaint you with what I have writ, by her Majeſty's command, to that Miniſter, concerning the complaints of our merchants, about the hard uſage they meet with in their commerce in Spain. I aſſure myſelf, that the matter will appear to you ſo juſt and reaſonable, that you will back it with your inſtances and endeavours to obtain a ſpeedy as well as a favourable order in it, from the Court of Madrid.

Our Seſſion of Parliament is now drawing very near its concluſion. This buſineſs, I muſt tell you, has been moved, and makes a great noiſe; and if it is not immediately remedied, it may create much diſorder among us, weaken the hands of our friends, and be the ground of miſunderſtanding between the two Courts.

I need add no more to induce you to exert your utmoſt to remove this ſtumbling-block out of our way. I ſhall in a poſt or two write to you more fully, and by that opportunity I hope not to fail of ſending you the Queen's letter to the King of Spain. I am, Sir,

Your moſt obedient, humble ſervant,

BOLINGBROKE.

To Mr. Prior.

SIR,

Whitehall, July 9th, 1714.

I AM ſo ſenſible of the uneaſineſs you muſt be under, to live without any news from this enchanted iſland, and to be ſo long deprived of the aſſiſtance of ſo able a Miniſter as Barton, that the moment the prorogation is over, I ſet pen to paper.

* For the Miniſter of Spain.

Theſe

Theſe four or five months laſt paſt have afforded ſuch a ſcene as I hope never again to be an actor in. All the confuſion which could be created by the diſunion of friends, and the malice of enemies, has ſubſiſted at Court and in Parliament. Little or no public buſineſs has been tranſacted in domeſtic affairs; and as to you and your Continent, we have not once caſt an eye towards you. We never could ſo juſtly be ſtyled *diviſos orbe Britannos.*

The Councils and Committees will begin now to ſit with ſome regularity again, and you may, by the two poſts of next week, expect to hear from me on ſeveral affairs which are depending, and which require diſpatch, as well as to receive ſome better account of your own deſtination. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

My ſervice, if you pleaſe, to all our friends.

To the Earl of Strafford.

MY LORD,

July 14th, 1714.

I WAS beginning to write, when your's of the 20th, N.S. came to my hands.

You will not wonder at my complaints of want of time, when I tell you, that for ſeveral weeks before the Seſſion of Parliament roſe, there were new plots, day after day, concerting againſt me; and that thoſe, in the ſervice of whom I have drudged theſe fifteen years, were the propoſers of new confederacies, the cement of which was to be my ruin. This, my Lord, is the treatment I have met with, and the only crime, by which the malice that acted theſe things can pretend to ſay, I ever deſerved them, is this, when the Queen's affairs were come by

ſlow, but long obſerved ſteps, into the utmoſt confuſion; when the party which was at our feet, had been nurſed up and rendered formidable, when the party that only could ſupport us, was under the utmoſt diſſatisfaction, ſome of them taking part againſt us, others cool and indifferent ſpectators; in a word, when every man, who looked on, agreed that we could not carry the buſineſs of the Seſſion round, then I preſumed, among others, to beg of one man *, as a friend, that he would alter his conduct, and to repreſent to the Queen, as a faithful ſervant, that her government was at the brink of deſtruction.

I do not wonder at what you write concerning Van Hulſt. The ſame perſon who employed him formerly, employs him, I ſuppoſe, now, and the language he holds in Holland, is the ſame, as the ſame perſon's emiſſaries and new friends, the Whigs, hold here; ſuch inſinuations as theſe, have been made to the Lords, and they run into a long examination, expecting to diſcover mighty things, at laſt they found nothing, but what made them aſhamed of their proceedings †.

As

* Lord Oxford.

† This probably relates to the following circumſtance:
Some time before the meeting of Parliament, a forged letter, ſaid to have been written by the Duke of Lorain to her Majeſty, had been circulated; in which the Duke, after beſtowing high encomiums on the Pretender, declines a compliance with her Majeſty's wiſhes, to ſend him out of the territories of Lorain. This encouraged the Whig Lords to move an Addreſs to her Majeſty, for the letters which had paſſed between the Biſhop of London and the Baron le Begue, Envoy of Lorain. Upon which the following letters were produced, and the expectations of the party fell to the ground.

L'Evêque de Briſtol au Baron le Begue.

" MONSIEUR,

" A Utrecht, ce 8me Novembre, 1713.

" J'EMBRASSERAI toujours avec plaiſir les occaſions qui ſe préſenteront, pour vous témoigner mes reſpects, & pour vous aſſurer du réciproque de l'amitié que vous m'avez témoignée, pendant votre ſéjour à Utrecht. Je le fais maintenant, par ordre de ſa Majeſté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, que j'ai l'honneur de ſervir, d'autant que ſa Majeſté trouvant que le Prétendant à ſa Couronne n'eſt pas encore ſorti du territoire de ſon Alteſſe, le Duc, votre maître, nonobſtant les inſtances réitérées qui ont été faites à cette fin, elle m'a commandé de vous prier de vouloir bien repréſenter à ſon Alteſſe les dangers qu'il y pourroit avoir à appréhender pour ſa Majeſté, & pour ſes royaumes, comme auſſi pour la ſucceſſion Proteſtante, en cas que la dite perſonne continuoit à demeurer plus long-tems dans ſes états, & combien peu un telle protection s'accorderoit avec l'amitié & la bonne correſpondance qui ſubſiſte entre ſa Majeſté & ſon Alteſſe. Quand j'aurai l'honneur de vous rejoindre quelque part, je vous pourrois expliquer ces matières plus au long, & vous faire ſouvenir

des

As to your Lordſhip's letters to me, they all remain among my private papers, and neither Van Hulſt, nor any other perſon, can poſſibly arrive at the ſight of them. Nothing is more ſacred with me, than the rules of friendſhip, and I ſhould look on myſelf as the laſt of men, if your private correſpondence had paſſed into any hands but my own, by my fault. I value myſelf as I am your relation and your friend,

des addreſſes dernièrement faites à ſa Majeſté par ſon Parlement, comme auſſi d'autres conſidérations, leſquelles, je me perſuade, vous ſont néanmoins aſſez connues, pour qu'étant repréſentées à ſon Alteſſe par un Miniſtre auſſi accrédité & bien-intentionné que l'eſt Monſieur le Baron de Begue, elles ne manquent point d'avoir tout effet qu'on en ſouhaite & demande, c'eſt à dire, qu'il ne ſoit permis au dit Prétendant de demeurer plus long-tems dans les états du Duc, votre maître. Je ſuis, &c.

"JOHN BRISTOL."

"*Le Baron le Begue à l'Evêque de Briſtol.*

MY LORD, A la Haye, le 9me Novembre, 1713.

J'AI reçu ce matin la lettre, que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, le 8me du courant, que j'enverrai demain à ſon Alteſſe Royale, & dès que je ſaurai ſes intentions, je ne manquerai point de vous en rendre compte; vous priant cependant, my Lord, de vous ſouvenir, que dans le tems, que le Chevalier de St. George vint faire ſa réſidence à Bar; j'eus ordre de vous dire, que ſon Alteſſe Royale mon maître n'auroit donné azile à ce Prince, que ſur les vives inſtances, qui lui en avoient été faites par la Cour de France, qui même engagea ſon Alteſſe Royale de ſoliciter des paſſeports tant à la Cour Impériale, qu'auprès de Meſſieurs les Etats-Généraux des Provinces Unies des Pays-Bas, pour la ſureté du dit Chevalier; préſentment, my Lord, je ne ſais point ſi ces inſtances, dont vous me parlez ont, été réitérées, ni ſi mon maître eſt en liberté de faire ſortir de ſes états un Prince, qui n'y a été reçu qu'à la ſolicitation du Roi Très Chrétien. C'eſt, my Lord, ce que je ſoumets à la prudence de votre Excellence, dont j'ai l'honneur d'être, avec tout le reſpect poſſible, my Lord, &c.

"T. LE BEGUE."

Copie de la lettre de ſon Alteſſe Royale de Loraine, au Baron le Begue, ſon Miniſtre à la Haye, en date du 17me Novembre, 1713.

"J'AI reçu, Monſieur, ce matin votre lettre, en date du 11me du courant, à laquelle étoit jointe celle que Monſieur l'Evêque de Briſtol vous a écrite d'Utrecht, le 8me de ce mois, avec copie de la réponſe que vous lui avez faite, que j'ai approuvé. J'avoue que j'ai été ſurpris de voir la demande que vous fait Monſieur l'Evêque de Briſtol, de la part de la Reine de la Grande Bretagne, & mon intention eſt que vous répondiez à ce Miniſtre, que n'ayant rien plus à cœur que de me conſerver les grâces & bontés de la Reine, je n'omettrai aucune occaſion de les mériter, mais qu'à l'égard de la demande que l'on me fait de faire ſortir de mes états Monſieur le Chevalier de St. George, je ne pouvois répondre autre choſe, ſi non que du ſu & de l'aveu de toute l'Europe, il étoit venu demeurer dans mes états, leſquels étant un pays neutre, tout le monde pouvoit y venir demeurer; que l'Empereur même lui avoit donné un paſſeport pour y venir & y reſter, avec cette reſtriction neanmoins, de n'en devoir point ſortir, & que là-deſſus je n'avois pas d'autre réponſe à faire, eſpérant que mes raiſons étant trouvées bonnes, Monſieur l'Evêque de Briſtol voudra bien me continuer ſon amitié, & me conſerver, par ſes bon offices auprès de la Reine, l'honneur de ſa protection, qui eſt tout ce que je ſouhaite le plus ardemment. C'eſt ce que vous aurez en réponſe de le vôtre.

"LEOPOLD."

and

and I will anſwer both theſe characters, as a man of honour ought to do in every inſtance, and in every circumſtance of life. I never ſpoke to Van Hulſt five times in my life, and I dare ſay, it is not leſs than two years ſince I have been in a room with him.

Lord Marlborough's people gave out that he is coming over, and I take it for granted that he is ſo *; whether on account of the ill figure he makes abroad, or the good one he hopes to make at home, I ſhall not determine, but I have reaſon to think, that ſome people †, who would rather move heaven and earth, than either part with their power, or make a right uſe of it, have lately made overtures to him, and have entered into ſome degree of concert with his creatures.

My dear Lord, the Queen's affairs are in a deplorable ſtate, by that glorious management, with which, it ſeems, no man muſt preſume to find fault; we are fallen into contempt abroad, into confuſion at home; with a vaſt majority of the nation on our ſide, we are inſulted by the minority; and with the merit of having made a good and popular peace, we are reproached by thoſe who lie under the guilt of attempting to prolong a ruinous war. It is a great while ſince I have thought that this could never be, was not our leader in a ſecret with our enemy; and, I believe, that there is hardly a Whig or Tory in Britain, that is not of the ſame opinion.

What the Queen will do to extricate herſelf from theſe difficulties, and ſhe alone can ſave herſelf, I do not know. This I know, that there is no danger, no labour I decline to ſerve her, except one, which is, that of truſting the ſame conduct a fifth year, which has deceived herſelf theſe four years.

Go on as you do, and hug yourſelf, my dear Lord, that you are at a diſtance from theſe ſcenes of folly and knavery; a few days will decide of a great deal, as ſoon as I am certain, you ſhall be ſo too.

* He landed at Dover, 1ſt Auguſt.

† Meaning Oxford.

Adieu,

Adieu, my Lord, ever, from the bottom of my heart, your faithful and affectionate friend, kinſman, and ſervant.

From Mr. Prior.*

Paris, July 13-24th, 1714.

THOUGH I have troubled you, my Lord, with a long letter, I cannot forbear adding one word to you, to thank you for ſending me Barton the Wiſe, who is the beſt interpreter, in the world, of confuſion and diſorder; for he does not ſpeak one ſentence out, ſtops ſhort, knows nothing, and concludes, almoſt before he has begun, with Lord have mercy upon England! In his ſtyle, I can go on with my beſt wiſhes and hopes, that every thing is, and will be to your ſatisfaction; and as I will give your ſincere ſervice to all friends here, I am perſuaded that you think no man is more of that number, than your own

M. Prior.

Duc de Noailles, d'Aumont, and our quality, Richmond, Annandale, and Selkirk, are to dine with me to-morrow, with friend Southwell: do you think we ſhall drink Lord Bolingbroke's health? Adieu, my Lord, I am ever your's.

To the Lord Primate of Ireland.

My Lord,

Whitehall, July 27th, 1714.

I RECEIVE thoſe marks of your confidence and good opinion, which you give me in your letter of the 17th, with all poſſible ſenſe of gratitude. The beſt return which I can make, and this I beg your

* Private.

Grace to be perſuaded firmly, that I will make, is to maintain a ſincere and unreſerved correſpondence with you, and to improve, as far as I am able, all the information and inſtruction, which your Grace ſhall, from time to time, be pleaſed to give me, to the advantage of the Church of England and Ireland.

Men of the characters, which your Grace deſcribes, ſhall never have any ſhare of my aſſiſtance to advance them in the world; nor eſpecially to promote them to thoſe ſtations in the hierarchy, where every one of their private vices muſt become a national calamity. What perſons the Queen has pitched upon, to fill the vacant Biſhoprics in Ireland, or whether ſhe has abſolutely determined a liſt, I really do not know. When I repreſented to her Majeſty, at Windſor, the great advantage, which would accrue to the Church and State, by your Grace's promotion, I think ſhe ſpoke as if ſhe had reſolved on the others.

Since that time, the affairs of our Court have been in all that confuſion, which your Grace cannot be ignorant of, and which has in a manner ſuſpended all buſineſs, except the debates of Parliament, and the intrigues of party. My own ſituation has been particularly nice, the utmoſt I could do, has been little enough to ward the ſtabs which were levelled at me, and to diſcover the mines which were daily wrought under my feet; and I have therefore been forced to abate that activity, or forwardneſs in the ſervice, and by which, I hope to atone for a multitude of imperfections whereof I am conſcious.

I am hopeful, that the Queen will eſtabliſh her government on the only foundation which ought to laſt. In this caſe, I ſhall perhaps be able to influence the nominations to the Iriſh Sees, to your Grace's ſatisfaction, and therefore humbly deſire you to truſt me ſo far, as to communicate freely to me your ſentiments in each particular inſtance. I will be ſure to uſe all the diſcretion, and obſerve all the ſecrecy, which your Grace ſhall think proper to enjoin.

It

It will not, I imagine, be difficult to keep off the diſpatch of this affair, till I hear from you. My Lord Angleſey is ſet out from home, and your Grace will ſoon have the ſatisfaction of ſeeing him in Ireland; you will find his Lordſhip not a little diſcompoſed with the turn, which the Dublin diſpute has taken here, my heart has gone along with his in this whole affair, and the utmoſt I could do, I have done. But, indeed, the conjuncture was fatal; when thoſe who are at the head of government are in diſtraction, and their influence is either not employed at all, or differently applied, ſubordinate miniſters will take the liberty of acting as their paſſions drive them, or their intereſt entices them, and this I take to have been the caſe. I cannot perſuade myſelf that a ſcheme was laid to give up the cauſe of our friends, but all that ſome people might have done, and would have done at another time, was not perhaps done at this. I know but one way of retrieving theſe diſadvantages, and of preventing thoſe misfortunes, which every reaſonable man ſees before him, and which every honeſt man dreads; and that is to take hold of the preſent diſpoſition, which there ſeems to be, to act a clear game with the Tories, and on that foundation to eſtabliſh the Queen's Government. Could all our friends be brought, with union and with ſpirit, to encourage her Majeſty to purſue this meaſure, and to ſupport her in it; I ſhould ſoon grow very ſanguine. At preſent I do not abſolutely deſpond, nor yet flatter myſelf; as long as there is any appearance of advancing the cauſe, which I profeſs myſelf to have at heart, I am willing to continue in the laborious, unthankful, dangerous office. Whenever, either through the fault of the Court, or of the party, this proſpect is removed, I ſhall have nothing left to do, but in private to bemoan the calamity of my country.

Your goodneſs, my Lord, has encouraged me to treſpaſs on your patience; the high veneration which I have for your Grace's character makes me deſirous to have my conduct approved by you, and to this laudable deſire, I beſeech your Grace to attribute what I have ſaid of

myſelf in this letter; had I not this excuſe, the charge of impertinence would lie heavy upon me.

I am, my Lord, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

To Colonel Kane *.

SIR,

Whitehall, July 27th, 1714.

I KNOW too well your zeal for the Queen's honour and ſervice, to imagine you would ſuffer any thing to paſs where you command, inconſiſtent with either; when I mentioned the notice which had been taken of the Emperor's picture hanging in the Town Houſe, and of ſome appearance of his authority ſubſiſting in the iſland, I was far from imagining you to blame; but the reaſon why I wrote to you on the ſubject, was purely to give you an opportunity of furniſhing me, as you have now done, with anſwers to ſuch as might complain.

La Blotiere will give you no farther trouble, I am ſorry he has given you ſo much. You are at liberty, as you will have ſeen, by a letter I wrote to you ſome days ago, to oblige him to depart from the iſland. I will be ſure to ſet it right with Lord Peterborough, whom we expect every day after Colonel Philips's journey hither. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

P.S. I thought once to have ſent theſe diſpatches, by a meſſenger on purpoſe, but that might have occaſioned ſpeculation, and I hope they will go ſafe by flying packet.

* Commanding at Minorca.

To the Lords Juſtices of Ireland.*

My Lords,

Whitehall, July 28th, 1714.

I HAVE the honour of your Excellencies' letter of the 17th, and ſhall make the beſt uſe I am able of the ſeveral informations which you are pleaſed to give me.

The removal of the Earl of Oxford from the poſt of Lord High Treaſurer, the conſtitution of a commiſſion of the Treaſury, and ſeveral other incidents, which attend ſuch a change, have for a few days interrupted the regular courſe of buſineſs. I hope we ſhall ſoon ſettle into order, and carry on the ſervice, with more vigour and diſpatch, than has been uſual; and then one of the firſt cares muſt be to ſecure the peace of Ireland.

In the mean while, her Majeſty perſuades herſelf, that your Excellencies will leave nothing undone, to prevent ſuch diſorders, as the ferment, at this time raiſed, gives too much reaſon to apprehend.

One would imagine that the vigilancy uſed in diſcovering, and the ſeverity uſed in proſecuting ſuch as were liſted, or as liſted others for the Pretender, might be ſufficient to calm the minds of men, by ſhowing them they are ſafe, through the care and under the protection of the Government.

The perſon your Excellencies mention to me, I had notice of before: Mr. Secretary Bromley has likewiſe received ſeveral informations concerning him, and I believe will ſtop him, and ſeize his papers.

I am, &c.

Bolingbroke.

* The Archbiſhops of Armagh and Tuam, and the Lord Chancellor.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

MONSIEUR,

De Whitehall, ce 29me Juillet, 1714.

QUOIQUE je viens d'écrire fort amplement à Meſſieurs d'Iberville & Prior, la Reine a voulu que je me ſerviſſe du même courier pour vous communiquer la ſurpriſe & le chagrin, que lui cauſent les bruits qui courrent ici depuis quelque tems. On prétend que le Roi Catholique ne veut plus ſe tenir aux renonciations qu'il a fait, ni aux engagemens qui ont été pris pour empêcher la réunion des deux monarchies. On prétend que le Cardinal di Guidice traite actuellement cette affaire à la Cour de France; & on ajoute, ce que je ne croirai jamais, qu'il a obtenu des actes & des déclarations contraires à tout ce qui a été réglé dans les traités d'Utrecht à cet égard. Ces diſcours font d'autant plus d'impreſſion, qu'ils ſe trouvent confirmés par des avis qui ſont venus à la Reine. Je ne vous dirai pas, Monſieur, qu'après une entrepriſe de cette nature, les ſtipulations les plus ſolennelles deviendront à l'avenir de nul poids.

Je ne veux non plus entrer dans un détail des ſuites funeſtes de l'infraction d'un article, qui ſert de baſe & de fondement à la paix. Ce ſeroit ſuppoſer, en quelque façon, que les bruits & les avis dont je viens de parler ſoient fondés. Je me bornerai, Monſieur, à vous repréſenter la néceſſité qu'il y a de mettre les eſprits en repos, ſur un point de cette importance. La paix n'eſt pas encore générale, & il n'y a rien qui puiſſe tant contribuer à rendre difficiles les traités qui reſtent à faire, que de voir déjà des contraventions à ceux qui ont été faits.

Je me flatte, Monſieur, de recevoir dans peu votre réponſe, & d'être par-là en état de donner à la Reine une ſatisfaction entière.

Je ſuis, &c.

B.

From

From Mr. Prior *.

MY DEAR LORD,

Paris, Auguſt 7th, 1714.

I SHOULD be wanting in my duty and friendſhip to you, if I were ſilent upon a point, which for me of all men, it is moſt dangerous to touch; you will eaſily gueſs, it is the differences, and, as they are repreſented here, the open quarrels, between my maſters at Whitehall. Who is in the wrong, or who is in the right, is not in my power at this diſtance to determine; but this thing every one ſees at this Court, from Torcy to Courtenvaux, as I believe they do in yours, from my Lord Chancellor to Miramont, that the honour of our nation daily diminiſhes, and the credit of the Miniſters moſt particularly ſuffers. I would expatiate upon this topic, if I did not write to a man of your ſuperior ſenſe, and I need make no excuſe for touching upon it, becauſe, I am ſure, I write to a man who loves me, and knows I love him. I have one reaſon to wiſh an end of theſe miſunderſtandings, more than any man elſe, which is, that I foreſee my own ruin inevitably fixed in their continuance: but be all that as it will, my Lord Bolingbroke ſhall never be aſhamed of my conduct, or find me behave otherwiſe than as an honeſt and an Engliſhman.

Am I to go to Fontainbleau? am I to come home? am I to be looked upon? am I to hang myſelf? From the preſent proſpect of things, the latter begins to look moſt eligible. Adieu, my Lord, God bleſs you! I am ever, inviolably your's,

MATT.

Monſieur de Torcy has very ſevere, and, I fear, very exact accounts of us: we are all frightened out of our wits, upon the Duke of Marlborough's going into England.

* Private.

From Mr. Prior *.

Paris, without date, 1714.

TO ſay the truth, my dear Lord Bolingbroke, Monſieur de Torcy thinks us all mad. He aſked me many queſtions which (for the beſt reaſon in the world) I did not anſwer; as for inſtance, how we can oblige a man to go from one place, when we forbid all others to receive him? In caſe the Chevalier ſhould go from Lorain, would you, three months hence, deſire this Court to write another letter to the Principality where he may then be, to turn out from thence; and when at this rate, muſt either you or Monſieur de Torcy have done writing?

Our ill-wiſhers' low diſcourſes here of the prevalence of the Whigs, the fears of the Miniſtry who dare not diſoblige them, we have a thouſand inſinuations of 2210, 418, 892, 751, the 1758, 372, 1216, 892, &c. which conſidering the ſtate of my affairs, muſt be very delicious to your friend Matthew. Adieu, my Lord, I hear more from the Secretary of State, than from Henry.

To the Lords Juſtices of Ireland.

MY LORDS,

Kenſington, July 31ſt, 1714.

I HAVE juſt time to tell you, that the Queen draws apace to her latter end. All poſſible care has been taken to put the kingdom into a condition of paſſing quietly under that government which the law has eſtabliſhed. I can add no more, but to recommend myſelf to your Excellency's friendſhip, and to aſſure you, that I am, and always will be, with great reſpect and truth, my Lords, &c.

B.

* Private.

Au

Au Roi.

SIRE,

De Whitehall, ce 3me Août, 1714.

QUOIQUE je crains d'être importun, je ne ſaurois me diſpenſer plus long-tems, & de ſuivre mon inclination, & de m'acquitter de mon devoir.

Je prends donc la liberté, au milieu des acclamations de votre peuple, de témoigner à votre Majeſté, la joie que je reſſens d'être devenu le ſujet d'un auſſi grand Prince.

C'eſt ce même eſprit qui agit généralement tout le monde ; & les factions qui ont accoutumées d'agiter ce gouvernement, paroiſſent être ceſſées. Dieu veuille que la ſageſſe & la fermeté de votre Majeſté les puiſſent empêcher de renaître.

Quant à moi, j'oſe ſupplier votre Majeſté d'être perſuadée, que les mêmes principes d'honneur & de conſcience, qui m'aient porté à ſervir la feue Reine juſques à ſa mort, avec conſtance & avec fidélité, m'attacheront inviolablement à elle, & que ſoit à la Cour, ſoit au Parlement, ſoit dans ma province, je tâcherai en tout, & par tout, de mériter le titre de,

Sire, de votre Majeſté,

Le très humble, très fidelle,

Et très obeiſſant ſerviteur,

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Earl of Strafford.

Auguſt 13th, 1713.

I THANK you a thouſand times, my dear Lord, for your kind letter; indeed, the Queen's death was a very great ſurprize; for though I did not imagine ſhe could hold out long, yet I hoped ſhe would have got over the ſummer.

Such little fellows as you mention, who want virtue enough to take the laudable ways of raiſing themſelves in the world, and have, therefore, recourſe to all the vile arts of ſycophants and paraſites, may talk of plots in favour of the Pretender, but ſure there never was yet ſo quiet a tranſition from one government to another, as the preſent is likely to be, nay, as the preſent already is, for we are at this moment in as perfect tranquillity as ever. I hope, for the King's ſake, and for our country's ſake, that the violent meaſures of thoſe, who will not be found able to ſupport them when they have adviſed them, will not be purſued; indeed there is not, from his Majeſty's character of prudence and caution, reaſon to ſuſpect that they will: the nation never was in a better temper, it would be a pity not to improve ſuch a diſpoſition.

For my own part, I doubt not but I have been painted in fine colours to the King; I muſt truſt to my conduct to clear me: I ſerved the Queen to the laſt gaſp as faithfully, as diſintereſtedly, as zealouſly, as if her life had been good for twenty years, and ſhe had had twenty children to ſucceed her; I do not repent doing ſo, nor envy thoſe who did otherwiſe: on the ſame principle, will I ſerve the King, if he employs me; and if he does not, I will diſcharge my duty honeſtly and contentedly in the country, and in the Houſe of Peers.

I am ſurprized at what you write about Dorſet, I thought he had better ſenſe. Adieu, my dear Lord, I depend on your friendſhip, which I will always endeavour to deſerve.

Craggs

Craggs arrived to-day; by his account, we expect in ten days or a fortnight to ſee the King. Berkley, with the fleet, is, I believe, ſailed, or ſailing. Once more, my good kinſman and fellow-labourer, adieu. I am your's, as long as I am

BOLINGBROKE.

The meſſenger who brings you this, goes on to the King with a letter, which the Lords Juſtices ordered me to write.

A Monſieur de Torcy.

De Whitehall, ce 19me Août, 1714.

APRES un coup auſſi rude* que celui que je viens d'eſſuyer, la plus grande conſolation que je pouvois eſpérer étoit la continuation de votre amitié, dont vous avez bien voulu, Monſieur, m'aſſurer, par la lettre que vous avez pris la peine de m'écrire.

Je tâcherai de la mériter dans quelque ſituation que je me trouve, & de ſubir mon ſort, tel qu'il puiſſe être, d'une manière à ne vous faire pas rétracter la bonne opinion que vous avez conçue de moi.

Je ſuis, & je ſerai toute ma vie, avec un attachement inviolable, Monſieur, votre, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

* Upon the demiſe of the Queen, it ſoon appeared that the majority of the Lords Regent favoured the other party, and Bolingbroke underwent ſome inſtances of perſonal inſult, which could do him no diſhonour, but might have taught him to expect the little mercy that was ſoon afterwards ſhown to him and his colleagues.

TRANSLATION

OF

FOREIGN LETTERS AND PAPERS, &c.

MEMORIAL. (Page 7.)

For the Duke of Savoy.

THE ſubſtitution of the Duke of Savoy and of his family, to the Crown of Spain and the Indies, ſhall be executed, when the article relative to the re-union of the two monarchies is accompliſhed. The ſubſtitution ſhall be inſerted in all the acts of renunciation, as well that of the King of Spain, as thoſe of the Dukes of Berry and Orleans. It ſhall be acknowledged by his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and alſo by the Cortes of Spain. The whole, according to the plan contained in Lord Bolingbroke's letter to the Marquis de Torcy of the 17th July, O.S.

Sicily ſhall be ceded to the Duke of Savoy, when the ſaid ſubſtituition is executed. Upon the arrival of my Lord Lexington, or ſuch Miniſter as the Queen ſends to Spain, at Madrid, the King of Spain ſhall execute a ſecret article, by which he engages to cede Sicily to the Duke of Savoy, by the peace, whether general or ſeparate, and to give him poſſeſſion of that kingdom, upon the exchange of the ratifications. His Royal Highneſs may take actual poſſeſſion of that iſland, as ſoon as the ratifications of a general peace, or of a ſeparate peace between Great Britain, France, Spain, and Savoy, are executed and exchanged; and the Queen is ready to agree with his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, upon an article * to prevent his Royal Highneſs either exchanging or alienating the ſaid iſland, for any cauſe or pretence whatever. The above cited letter of Lord Bolingbroke to the Marquis de Torcy, of 17th July, ſhall be followed, as well in what relates to the ceſſion of Sicily, as to the ſubſtitution of his Royal Highneſs, in all points not altered by this memorial.

With regard to the barrier of his Royal Highneſs, we muſt lay down as a principle, that the Queen has no wiſh to aggrandiſe him on the ſide of France, and that ſhe demands nothing more than his ſecurity; which ſecurity his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty has already promiſed to all the allies of her Britannic Majeſty. The Miniſters of France contend that this ſecurity is implied in the offers made by the King to his Royal Highneſs, to give up to him Exilles, Feneſtrelles, and the valley of Pragelas. Thoſe of the Duke of Savoy inſiſt, on the contrary, upon many other points, as indiſpenſably neceſſary for ſuch ſecurity. The Queen, who

* The King gives his conſent to ſuch an article.

cannot take upon her to decide this affair, deſires his Royal Highneſs's reaſons may be examined and decided, with thoſe of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, at Utrecht.

In Explanation of the Article to prevent the Re-union of the two Monarchies.

The contents of articles, propoſed by her Majeſty the Queen of Great Britain, for a ſuſpenſion of arms, the 6th June, O.S. and accepted by his Majeſty the Moſt Chriſtian King, in his anſwers given the 22d of ſame month, N.S. ſhall be followed. The Queen will, without loſs of time, diſpatch the Miniſter ſhe intends to ſend to Spain, and all the ſaid renunciations ſhall be made and accepted by his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, in the ſpace of ſix weeks, or ſooner if poſſible. This article will meet with leſs difficulty, as the King has already granted it, and as, if a general or ſeparate peace does not follow, all theſe acts are to be null and void.

Relating to the Intereſts of the Elector of Bavaria.

The Queen thinks it juſt that the Elector of Bavaria ſhould be reſtored to the poſſeſſion of the Duchy and Electorate of Bavaria, excepting always the Upper Palatinate, which will remain and belong, with the rank and dignity of firſt Elector to the Elector Palatine, and failing him, to his brother Prince Charles of Neubourg; ſo that the ſaid Elector of Bavaria cannot hope to recover it till the death of the Elector Palatine, and of his brother.

The Queen thinks it unneceſſary ſhe ſhould actually engage to uſe her endeavours to obtain ſomething for the Elector of Bavaria, as the French Miniſters will make uſe of his poſſeſſion of the places he now holds in the Netherlands, to procure Sardinia for him. Her Majeſty will give it no oppoſition. This is all that can be expected from her, for it muſt be confeſſed that it would little ſuit with her Majeſty's honour and intereſt, to form new engagements with a Prince, who is at preſent her enemy, while it is not in her power to fulfil thoſe ſhe has entered into with her allies.

Fontainbleau, Auguſt 21ſt, 1712.

To Monſieur Marſchalch. (Page 20.)

SIR,

Whitehall, September 10th. 1712.

I HAVE juſt received the letter you honoured me with the 9th inſtant, and which my brother put into my hands.

I dare appeal to yourſelf, Sir, if the Queen has not been mindful of the King your maſter's intereſt, from the very beginning of the negociation, and if at the time ſhe experienced from almoſt all her allies, a treatment which ſhe certainly never merited, the articles relating to your intereſt, were not nearly adjuſted.

I always ſpoke to you, I always wrote to you, with a frankneſs, which I ſhould ſcarce have obſerved, had I not known that the Queen's intention was to live in ſtrict union with the King your maſter, and to obtain complete ſatisfaction for him before the concluſion of the peace. The Queen was informed of my communications to you, and the aſſurances I have ſo often repeated; ſhe approves of them, and therefore is the more ſurpriſed, when ſhe received intelligence of the Prince of Anhalt's conduct, and your King's orders.

The Queen, Sir, does not forſake her allies; would to God ſhe had never been forſaken by them! her greateſt regret is, that ſhe finds herſelf at laſt diſabled from ſerving them in any other manner than by good offers and remonſtrances.

With regard to myſelf, there is nothing I more ardently deſire than to deſerve his Pruſſian Majeſty's favour; I flatter myſelf, little Bonet has not repreſented me otherwiſe, though, to tell you the truth, I have ſome ſuſpicion of this kind, for it ſeems to me that I am not very well with the Reſident, ſince I once interrupted him, and prevented his ſaying ſome things which it were improper a Secretary of State ſhould hear.

In all times, in all places, and in all circumſtances, I am, my dear Sir, &c.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 22.)

Fontainbleau, Auguſt 26th, 1712.

I PROMISED you, my Lord, the King's anſwer to the Queen, and I have the honour to ſend it to you with the copy. I regret much not being able to deliver it to you myſelf, and I aſſure you I am very ſorry to find our intercourſe in future reduced to letters only. But I feel that I muſt not dwell long upon that article, ſo let me paſs on to the letters from the King's Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, which I found upon my return here.

As they were in expectation of the reſult of your journey, their reaſoning upon general topics is a little uncertain, and the main point of the diſpatch relates to a private diſpute between M. Meſnager with M. de Rechteren. I ſend you, my Lord, the memorial I received upon it.

The Plenipotentiaries conclude, and I believe, with ſome reaſon, that thoſe who are adverſe to the peace, create incidents to break off the conferences at Utrecht. As to myſelf, the concluſion I draw, and which you will not find leſs true, is that M. Meſnager is not fond of the war, and that his Excellency de Rechteren was drunk.

However it may be, I apprehend, Sir, this is not a time either to break off the conferences, or to threaten to do ſo; we muſt let the Dutch remain faſt aſleep with their doſe of obſtinacy, and their Miniſters as much beſotted with the repreſentation of their ſovereignty, as with their bumpers, and for this purpoſe it is not improper, in my opinion, to aſſume a little auſterity with regard to the ſatisfaction the King has a right to demand for the language and proceedings of Rechteren. If you think differently, have the goodneſs to inform me of it. You know my compliance with you, and you have eaſily accuſtomed me to yield to your opinion without a murmur.

That knave Aſſurini, this day enters the Baſtille. I ſend you, my Lord, the copy of advices he ſent to Holland: I received them from our Plenipotentiaries. He had no papers with him; if he has left any at Paris, I ſhall have them to-morrow.

If his Excellency Vanderduſſen gives credit to ſuch memorials, he ought not to look upon France as exhauſted, though, in my opinion, we ſhould not have purchaſed you and the Earl of Oxford too dear.

They write to me, alſo, from Utrecht, that Count de Viglio is at Paris. But I think you have done me the honour to mention his being ſtill in England.

Suffer me to be ſilent with reſpect to our regret for your departure; ſhould you doubt it, you would have a bad opinion of all thoſe who had the honour of ſeeing you; I do not ſelect myſelf from the crowd, becauſe I hope you will always ſelect me as the man who is, with the moſt ſincere and true attachment, &c.

DE TORCY.

Copy of the King's letter to the Queen of Great Britain, from Fontainbleau, 26th Aug. 1712. (Page 22.)

MADAM AND SISTER,

I NEVER doubted the ſincerity of your intentions to promote the peace, and you have confirmed the juſt opinion I formed of you, by the miſſion of your Secretary of State, Lord Bolingbroke You could not have choſen a Miniſter more capable of ſhortening and removing the difficulties in the negociation. I am perſuaded you will be as well ſatisfied with what he has done, as I have been with his conduct, and more particularly with his aſſurances of your ſentiments with reſpect to me. Though I doubt not he will give you an exact report of mine towards you, as expreſſed to him, yet I muſt add, that I ſhall forget nothing to maintain the moſt perfect friendſhip with you, to make known, upon all occaſions, that I am, Madam and Siſter, your good brother,

LOUIS.

From

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 24.)

MY LORD,

Fontainbleau, Auguſt 29th, 1712.

AS you have approved of my propoſal with reſpect to M. de Rechteren's affair, I gave the King an account of what I had written to you, and of your reply, and of the orders given by his Majeſty to his Plenipotentiaries to the ſame effect.

His Majeſty wiſhes they ſhould, through the Plenipotentiaries of England, require from the States-General a diſavowal of the proceedings of M. de Rechteren; that the other Plenipotentiaries of Holland ſhould, for this purpoſe, all together, proceed to the hotel of one of the King's Miniſters, whither the other two would, at the ſame time, repair. That M. de Rechteren, the author of the inſult, ſhould be recalled, and another Plenipotentiary named in his ſtead, as the moſt certain proof that his conduct was without the approbation, and contrary to the intentions of his maſters.

I believe they will be diſinclined to give this ſatisfaction juſt as it may be; but it will afford a ſubject for a negociation, while ſomething better is carrying on elſewhere.

The Chevalier writes to me, that he prefers going to Chalons, rather than to Rheims, becauſe the enemy's detachments are in the neighbourhood of the latter city, and proviſions are dear there. I ſee no difficulty in this alteration, the principal object being for him to begin his journey, and one or the other city being equally places for him to paſs through, where his reſidence will be not longer than until a place of ſecurity is provided for him out of the kingdom. If you think otherwiſe, my Lord, you will have the goodneſs to make it known to me, and you ſhall be ſatisfied. You have, in truth, reaſon to be ſo with the ſentiments you have excited here for you.

The Duke d'Aumont will give you a more particular account of them, than he has done in the letter I incloſe. I envy him nothing but the pleaſure of ſeeing you at all times. I give up to him the taſk of informing you of the vanity thoſe ladies have ſhown, whom you diſtinguiſhed by your commendation.

I only entreat you to believe that of all thoſe who have had the honour of ſeeing you here, no one is more entirely, than I ſhall be, as long as I live, &c.

DE TORCY.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 25.)

I LEARN, my Lord, your fortunate arrival in London, and am impatient for an account of the reception her Majeſty gave you, to congratulate with you.

I hope you have completed the converſion of your infidels; thoſe with us ſtill preſerve ſome relics of their incredulity, and, ſupported by your Plenipotentiaries, they can ſcarce imagine the plan brought by the Abbé Gaultier, could be that adopted for the peace. After what you have told me, my Lord, I own their reaſonings give me very little concern. But for the ſake of your credit and mine, I muſt entreat you to inform your negociators at Utrecht, at the proper time for it, that her Majeſty intends this plan ſhould be followed: you aſſured me of it, when I granted, in the King's name, her Majeſty's demands for the Duke of Savoy. By ſo doing, you will, at the ſame time, remove the alarms of your Plenipotentiaries with regard to Tournay, and ſilence the voice of infidelity here.

In conſequence of what the Abbé Gaultier writes as from you, the King diſpatches a meſſenger to Madrid, and adviſes the King of Spain to pardon the Catalans, and I doubt not he will act accordingly. He wiſhes to have paſſports for ſix Spaniſh ſhips, now ready to ſail for the Weſt Indies. I entreat you, my Lord, to ſend them as ſoon as poſſible to Mr. Prior, to whom I have already ſpoken upon the ſubject.

We parted with him with ſome difficulty, but have recovered him again, three days ſince. He is in requeſt not only for his good company, but for the pleaſure of converſing with him about you; and I aſſure you, that though his ſincerity is great, you have no reaſon to be uneaſy, for you loſe no part of that good opinion which you left behind you.

The

The Ducheſs d'Elbeuf reckons much upon the favourable impreſſion you entertained of her niece, and I believe, in that confidence, ſhe writes you the letter I have the honour to ſend.

Permit me, without the aid of others, to depend entirely upon the honour of your friendſhip, and do me the juſtice to believe, &c.

DE TORCY.

Fontainbleau, September 8th, 1712.

The Chevalier actually went from hence yeſterday, and I have juſt received a letter from him, dated Meaux; he proceeds on his journey to Châlons ſur Marne.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 27.)

Whitehall, Sept. 10th, 1712.

THAT in leaving France I ſhould have left my heart behind me, Sir, is nothing uncommon, but I have had the misfortune to leave my health there alſo. In fact, ſince my return, I have had ſome feveriſh attacks, which have prevented my attending to buſineſs as uſual. I went into the country for my recovery, and returned to Court only four days ago; thus, Sir, I have been deprived of the greateſt happineſs I can have, which is, to correſpond with you. I reſume my pen, with pleaſure, and I do not know that I ſhould feel greater ſatisfaction in writing to Madame de Courcillon, or to Madame de Parabeze.

Beſide my private intereſt, in ſupport of this epiſtolary intercourſe, I think I may ſay that the general intereſt is concerned in it; for though the Earl of Dartmouth, in whoſe department France is, ought naturally to communicate the Queen's orders to Mr. Prior, yet my letters to you, written with the openneſs of heart which I have promiſed, and which I ſhall be mindful of, will certainly prevent ſome difficulties, and remove others.

Surpriſe never equalled mine upon ſeeing, by your letter to the Lord Treaſurer, and by Mr. Prior's to me, her Majeſty's intention explained in a manner to induce you to believe, that Lord Lexington would delay his compliments to the King and Queen of Spain, or heſitate to acknowledge them as ſuch, until the article reſpecting the re-union was executed. It is true, he will not aſſume the character of Ambaſſador till that time, or at the peace; but he will make no more difficulty in acknowledging the King of Spain, than the latter will probably make in conſenting to what his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty has promiſed in his name: that Miniſter's inſtructions have been again looked over by the Lords of the Council, and I own a man muſt be extremely ſubtle to find any thing obſcure or equivocal in them.

Mr. Prior will ſatisfy you upon this article, as the Earl of Dartmouth has had orders to ſend him every neceſſary information.

You remark to me, Sir, in your letter of September 8th, that the infidels with you ſtill preſerve ſome relics of their incredulity. It is the ſame here; and thoſe muſt be hardened indeed, Sir, whom ſo many miracles cannot convert to the true faith. Let us proceed, Sir, in an uniform plan, and keep up, on both ſides, that good faith which has hitherto been inviolably preſerved, and we ſhall, at laſt, ſubdue theſe diſciples of St. Thomas.

Your honour and mine, equally dear to us, will be equally ſafe, as long as we adhere to what I had the Queen's permiſſion to ſay to you, of her Majeſty's intention on the general plan of the peace. You will remember, Sir, I repreſented to you, that her Majeſty's conduct, with reſpect to her allies, was in ſome meaſure determined by their own; that the violent meaſures they had purſued, to impede the negociation, had had the effect of enabling the Queen to make peace, without their concurrence; that in this caſe her Majeſty would declare to them, that ſhe had ſigned the treaty with France and Spain; that ſhe would propoſe the plan brought over by the Abbé Gaultier, as that upon which they might make peace; and that ſhe would give them to underſtand, that in future ſhe could do nothing more than interpoſe her good offices as the common friend of all parties.

You will alſo remember, Sir, I had the honour to tell you, in caſe the Dutch in particular, or other allies, ſhould determine to come in, before the concluſion of the peace, concerted by the Queen and his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, we ſhould then have to pay more

attention

attention to them, the compaſſion of people here would be excited, and the Queen's Miniſters would be obliged to take ſuch ſteps, as in the other caſe, they would have abſolutely refuſed to take.

This is what I advanced in France by her Majeſty's order, what by the ſame order I repeat to-day, and what you will find, Sir, ſtrictly adhered to.

The King's Plenipotentiaries ſeem to require of us ſomething more, when they inſiſt that her Majeſty's Miniſters do propoſe the holding a conference, in which, by a propoſition which appears, in ſome meaſure, contrary to what her Majeſty ſaid in her ſpeech, they will begin upon the barrier of the States-General. In the diſpute exiſting between your Plenipotentiaries and ours, the queſtion is not, to know whether Tournay ſhall be reſtored to the King, or not? for to obtain it is unneceſſary for you to begin with a ſpecific declaration; but the queſtion is, to know if the Queen ought to declare in form, and immediately, that Tournay ſhall be reſtored to France? for it would be tantamount to ſuch a declaration, were we to conſent to the explanation given by your Miniſters to that article of the ſpeech. That I may not ſwell too much a letter which already threatens to be tedious, I refer you to what Mr. Prior will have the honour to ſay upon this point, and will content myſelf with ſaying, that as it is not difficult to find a medium, ſo I hope we ſhall avoid every thing that may cauſe diſputes between the Miniſters of Great Britain and France.

The Earl of Dartmouth ſends twelve paſſports for the ſhips now ready to ſail for the Weſt-Indies, as required by the King of Spain, and Mr. Prior will diſpatch them directly.

The Queen has no objection to the change in the Chevalier's route; the principal matter is to loſe no time in procuring for him the ſecurity he requires, that he may then leave the kingdom.

I flatter myſelf, the Ducheſs d'Elbeuf will be ſatisfied with what I have done purſuant to her orders, and I beg you to let her have the incloſed.

I am perſuaded you do me the juſtice to believe, I have neglected nothing to ſerve the Duke of St. Pierre; that he is related to you, is ſufficient to inſure my devotion to his intereſt, and the Queen is very happy to have this opportunity of ſhowing her eſteem and friendſhip for you, by ſending poſitive orders to her Plenipotentiaries to ſecond thoſe of France in their inſtances to procure that ſatisfaction for the Duke of St. Pierre, which he with ſo much juſtice ſolicits.

Pleaſe to excuſe the faults in a letter written in much haſte, and which I have not had time to ſhorten. Be aſſured I am, &c.

B.

To the Duke d'Aumont. (Page 49.)

Whitehall, September 26th, O.S. 1712.

THERE is nothing but your arrival at Court, Sir, can give me greater pleaſure than I experienced upon receiving the honour of your letter of the 27th ult.

The ſtate of affairs, the commiſſion I was entruſted with, the politeneſs of the nation, and, above all, the King's goodneſs, contributed to procure me the honours I received during my ſhort ſtay at the Court of France, and which I never can be unmindful of. But, Sir, to find you will ſtill preſerve your friendſhip for me, and even at this diſtance, overpower me with your favour, is, I muſt own, in the higheſt degree, flattering to me.

Monſieur de Torcy informs me, you will ſet out in a few days; I expect you with impatience, and, I dare promiſe you, that though you may not here meet with the abilities of the Miniſters, nor the magnificence of the Court of France, you will however experience much integrity in our negociations, and may enjoy pleaſures which, without making a great noiſe, never fail to be very endearing. I am, my dear Duke, &c.

B.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 50.)

Verſailles, September 27th, 1712.

THE account of your illneſs, Sir, gave great uneaſineſs to all thoſe here whom you permitted to conſider themſelves among the number of your friends; and as I flatter myſelf, perhaps

haps more than any perſon, ſo I was more alarmed, and more afflicted at not having letters from you. The heart may be left behind, and yet health may be preſerved. Yours is eſſential to the public, and to the honour of thoſe who are combating the infidels; ſo many reaſons ſhould perſuade you, Sir, of the intereſt I feel in your recovery, even though you could believe, that after having had the honour of knowing you, I could be indifferent to any thing that concerns you.

I ſhould not be anxious about the ſucceſs of the buſineſs we are treating, if I had not ſome apprehenſion from the change in the ordinary correſpondence. I did not diſguiſe my uneaſineſs to Mr. Prior, when he informed me, ſome days ago, that, in future, he was to receive the Queen's orders from other hands than yours. The beſt intentions alter much from the manner in which they are explained, and whatever reſpect I may entertain for her Britannic Majeſty's choice, you will pardon me, Sir, if I frankly confeſs, that having experienced the pleaſure of negociating with you, I ought to be excuſed if I prefer you to other Miniſters. You give me freſh courage, by informing me that our intercourſe will not be interrupted, and I place an abſolute dependence on that openneſs of heart, for which I think I may be anſwerable, as well from paſt experience, as from your promiſes of it, now renewed. Indeed, I would not have been ſecurity for it to the ladies, had you made a longer ſtay with us. But as it was ſufficiently long to explain to you my thoughts, I leave it to you, Sir, to judge of my ſincerity, and of the extreme deſire I have to remove all difficulties, whenever it was impoſſible to prevent them.

It is true I was apprehenſive of one very conſiderable difficulty on the ſide of Spain, when Mr. Prior explained to me, during the laſt days of the King's ſtay at Fontainbleau, the orders given to Lord Lexington. I could not believe the Queen's intentions were ill interpreted, but as I was convinced her Britannic Majeſty would change a reſolution, which appeared to me oppoſite to the ſteps ſhe has hitherto purſued, I fortunately reſolved not to write a word to Spain of the occurrence which the letters to Mr. Prior gave me reaſon to dread: ſo that this wrong explanation will have been productive of no inconvenience, and the harm will be ſlight ſince it is ſolely confined to the uneaſineſs it has occaſioned to me.

The Queen's orders to Lord Lexington are conformable to your account of them. He will be well received in Spain, and the Catholic King is aſſiduous to promote the execution of every thing promiſed by the King in his name. So that I hope, Sir, no time will be loſt. I was apprehenſive of it when Mr. Prior imparted to me the obſervations made at Oxford upon the project of the renunciation. It appeared to expreſs in different terms what the King very diſtinctly declares in the act, of which I ſent you a copy. There was even an enumeration of our princes of the blood, which it was of great conſequence to France not to admit. I ſpoke of it to Mr. Prior, but Lord Lexington being gone, I judge theſe obſervations could not be inſerted in his inſtructions, and I rejoice they are not, for it is ſuppoſed the original from the King of Spain is now on its way; the King will receive it in a few days, and I own I ſhould regret the time loſt in ſending it back, and in demanding another, which would not contain clauſes more ſtrong, or more explicit, than thoſe in the preſent act.

The Abbé Gaultier would not forgive me theſe uſeleſs delays, he warmly urges a concluſion, and is almoſt inclined to attribute to me the ſtoppage of the negociation. Were it neceſſary to juſtify myſelf, I could prove, and you would be eaſily convinced, Sir, that the King has uſed all diligence on his part, and has been ſeconded by the King of Spain, beyond our hopes and expectation. But I believe the Abbé is animated by his zeal, and perhaps by his dread of leaving London, and coming here before the whole buſineſs is concluded.

You recal to my mind, Sir, word for word, the project you communicated to me, as the rule we ſhould follow to the completion of the whole. If I requeſted you to repeat it, do not arraign my memory, which has been faithful, attribute it ſolely to thoſe who doubt, and whoſe reſtleſſneſs might ſometimes ſtagger the firmeſt faith; an indiſcreet and artful advance, on the part of Holland, brings on again the former incredulity; it then becomes neceſſary to make uſe of ſuch arms as you have ſupplied me with, to reſtrain the proceedings within the terms of your plan.

It is in purſuance of the ſame plan, that the King does not preſs the renewal of the conferences at Utrecht, and has demanded pretty ſtrong ſatisfaction from that drunkard de Rechteren. It appears to me, to be alſo an indirect way to ſtrengthen the Dutch in their obduracy,

and prevent their entering before the concluſion of a ſeparate peace, into the meaſures agreed upon between the King and the Queen. Thus your people become more exaſperated againſt the obſtinacy of an imperious republic, which does not even obſerve the law of nations, in regard to Miniſters treating of peace with her, and, in this manner, we make daily advances towards that object which we have both in view.

But, as it appears, from what Mr. Prior has told me, ſince the arrival of the laſt meſſenger, the Queen is of opinion, that it is proper the conferences at Utrecht ſhould be renewed; and, as you remark in your letter, that it is right to find out ſome medium to determine all diſputes between the King's Plenipotentiaries and thoſe of Great Britain, his Majeſty conſents to order his Miniſters at Utrecht to make the declaration, of which I ſend you a copy, to thoſe of the Queen. I believe it is the beſt medium we can uſe, to guard, as long as may be neceſſary, the ſecret of the Queen's intentions; and, at the ſame time, to be at a certainty that the peace ſhall be treated of, upon the plan which the King ſent to London in the month of April laſt.

If her Britannic Majeſty judges it proper to renew the conferences at Utrecht, it is neceſſary for her to inform the Plenipotentiaries of her intentions upon the declaration I ſend you. Thoſe of the King will unite with them upon the ſubject. But before any ſtep be taken, the States-General muſt neceſſarily give ſatisfaction in the affair of de Rechteren.

The King always reckoned they would be uneaſy to give it in ſo explicit a manner as his Majeſty has demanded; though it would not be proper for him to recede, becauſe the enemies of the peace would certainly derive an advantage from it. But the King, in conſideration of her Majeſty, will readily give up one part of the reparation he demanded, being well perſuaded that her Britannic Majeſty will have a proper regard to the offence, and to the reſpect due to the King from ſuch a republic as that of Holland.

I expect, Sir, by the firſt meſſenger, the twelve paſſports you mention, for the ſhips which the King of Spain is ſending to the Indies, and I thank you beforehand for them.

It would only lengthen my letter, and tire you, without any uſe, were I to write upon all the points treated upon by Mr. Prior and myſelf, and of which he will give you an account; I have communicated to you an advice juſt received reſpecting the reſidence of the Chevalier out of the kingdom; you know it is through her Majeſty he expects the ſecurity neceſſary for him, as it is certain that detachments from the enemy's army are daily at the very gates of the town where he is to reſide.

I have alſo acquainted Mr. Prior with the ſecret offers made to the Elector of Bavaria. You know, Sir, that the King is intereſted in the welfare of that Prince, and am convinced you informed the Queen of what his Majeſty ſaid when you took leave; the Elector's uneaſineſs was very great when he heard that Sicily was certainly diſpoſed of, and, ſince your departure, his importunities have been more preſſing. As it is his conſtant hope that the Queen is not adverſe to him, and even believes her Majeſty will be happy to contribute to his advancement, he wiſhes ſhe ſhould be informed of what he demands, to remunerate him, as far as exiſting circumſtances will permit, for the ceſſion of the Upper Palatinate, and for that of his right to the moſt conſiderable portion of the Netherlands. I ſend you the project as drawn up by himſelf.

The letter you did me the honour to addreſs to me for the Ducheſs d'Elbeuf I ſent to her. As ſhe is now very ill, I do not depend upon an anſwer before the departure of the meſſenger.

It remains for me to thank you, Sir, for the many grateful tokens of your friendſhip, in ſpeaking to the Queen concerning the intereſt of the Duke of St. Pierre; from ſuch powerful patronage he may expect every thing, and as to myſelf, I am aware that I am indebted to you for thoſe marks of her Britannic Majeſty's goodneſs of which you aſſure me, and I wiſh it were in my power to deſerve them by the profound reſpect I entertain for her.

You inſtruct me to make excuſes for ſo long a letter, and though there is more occaſion for them on my part than on your's, yet I aſſure you, I was ſo little conſcious of my fault while writing, and the time paſſed ſo quick, that I ſtill think my letter ſhort. I wiſh it may appear ſo to you, and I entreat you to read with patience, my ſincere proteſtations of being, &c.

DE TORCY.

The

The Duc d'Aumont is hurrying the workmen of Paris to be the ſooner with you; that is the only advantage I envy him. Upon another occaſion I will uſe the permiſſion you have given me to write to you by another hand. I know not if the Queen has ſpoken to Baron de Forſtner on the ſubject of the Chevalier's reſidence at Bar.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 55.)

SIR,

Whitehall, September 26, O.S. 1712.

THE laſt meſſenger having been delayed ſome days at Calais, by contrary winds, I did not receive the honour of your's of the 27th, N.S. until yeſterday.

The Queen is at Windſor Caſtle, ſo that I ſhall not be able to ſee her before to-morrow, and conſequently I muſt defer till next week what I ſhall have the honour to ſay to you by her orders, but, in the mean time, I would not forego the advantage of this evening's poſt, to thank you for all your goodneſs, and to repeat my aſſurances of an inviolable, an eternal friendſhip.

Lord Lexington's inſtructions are certainly conformable to what I informed you of, and her Majeſty's intentions on that ſubject have never varied. Though Spain, as well as France, be in the department of the other ſecretary, yet, at the requeſt of that Miniſter before his departure, I peruſed with him all the orders he had received; and I think I may aſſure you that, when he left our Court he was complete maſter of every circumſtance, and as well diſpoſed as you could wiſh. It is true the obſervations of the civilians were written on the margin of the draught of the act of renunciation delivered to him, and that upon which he is principally to inſiſt, is the enumeration of the Princes of the blood of France.

I heartily wiſh we had never conſulted thoſe cavalling advocates, and, as far as I can judge, the clauſes drawn up in Spain are as ſtrong and as clear as thoſe which theſe gentlemen wiſh to inſert. But, at the ſame time, I own I do not well comprehend the objections to the enumeration, as laid down in Mr. Prior's diſpatch to the Earl of Dartmouth, in an act which is to be the foundation-ſtone of the peace, and which is to preſerve the tranquillity of Europe for ages to come, it is ſurely much more excuſable to admit uſeleſs expreſſions, than to neglect the ſmalleſt word that may either explain or confirm it.

I rejoice that the arms I provided you with have been of ſervice; I am only ſurprized you ſhould have had occaſion to uſe them.

It ſeems to me, that your infidels have little reaſon to oppoſe a miniſter, who, alone, and without their aſſiſtance of participitation, has conducted affairs to that point, which ſome time ſince they dared not hope to attain.

I thought the paſſports, which the King of Spain demanded for the ſhips about to ſail for the Indies, were already at Madrid; but I am juſt informed, that Mr. Gilligan her Majeſty's commiſſary for trade now going to Spain, is charged with them: he ſets off directly, and I hope this delay will have no bad conſequence.

As I have mentioned the Indies, I muſt ingenuouſly tell you, Sir, that the invaſion of our colonies by a ſquadron of your men of war, is an incident that does more harm, than all the booty they can carry away will do you good.

The Miniſter of Lorain has been ſpoken to concerning the ſafety of the Chevalier, and he has written to his maſter. On Sunday I ſhall certainly aſk him what anſwer he has received.

On Monday or Tueſday next I ſhall have the honour of writing to you by Mr. Prior's ſecretary. I am, &c.

B.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 76.)

SIR,

Windſor Caſtle, September 30th, O.S. 1712.

I CAME here laſt Saturday, and have had the honour to read to her Majeſty a part of your laſt letter of the 27th of September. I have at preſent materials for a long diſpatch, if, in order to ſave you as much trouble as I can, while you are loaded with ſo many important

affairs, I had not written a very long account of them to Mr. Prior. As he is fortunate in having frequent opportunities of paying his reſpects to you, he will avail himſelf of your intervals of leiſure to mention to you the various articles.

The Queen finds the declaration to be made by the Plenipotentiaries of France will remove all the ſcruples of her own Miniſters, will do away the difficulty they had raiſed, and which they conſidered as of conſiderable magnitude. I write to them to this effect; they will ſpeak in the ſame language to yours; with whom they will at the ſame time agree upon the ſatisfaction to be given in the affair of that drunkard de Rechteren.

Her Majeſty has alſo commanded me to impart to them the rule ſhe had laid down, and which ſhe has promiſed his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty to obſerve in the courſe of the negociations. She is very happy to find there has been no miſunderſtanding upon this ſubject, and that you underſtood the plan, which ſhe intends to follow with the utmoſt exactneſs, in the ſame ſenſe as I had orders to explain it, when in France, upon all occaſions, and principally in ſuch conjunctures as the preſent, in which the parties treating are of the firſt rank among mankind, and the ſubjects in diſcuſſion are of the utmoſt importance to the happineſs of the world; the beſt thing to be done is to leave nothing obſcure or equivocal in the terms to be uſed. This, it ſeems to me, we have done hitherto; and perhaps there is no example of a negociation conducted like the preſent, in which the labourers on both ſides have nothing to reproach themſelves with. This muſt be a great conſolation to us, and is a good omen of the ſucceſs of our great work.

The language held by the Dutch, with regard to the Elector of Bavaria, is, as it appears to me, very different; for when they ſpeak to us, they ſeem reſolved to leave him no place whatever in the Spaniſh Low Countries.

You may be certain I gave the Queen an account of the manner in which the King ſpoke to me, on the ſubject of that unfortunate Prince, and I doubt not you have communicated to his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty the Queen's ſentiments thereupon, which I had the honour to explain to you, and I do not find they are changed ſince my return. If you compare what may be obtained for this Elector with his perſonal merit, or with the obligations which France and Spain may be under to him, it will certainly appear a trifle to you; but when you ſee the ſubject in another light, and when you give yourſelf the trouble to conſider that this Prince has loſt all he had of his own, and all the King of Spain had entruſted to him or given him, except Luxembourg, Namur, Charleroy, and Nieuport, I think you will allow, the offers made to him are by no means inconſiderable, in relation to reſtitutions and expectancies held out to him. In one word, Sir, you know the real ſentiments of the Queen, but you alſo know thoſe engagements and meaſures which her honour requires, and ever will require her to keep.

To preſerve my character with you, and to preſerve that openneſs of heart which I have ſo often promiſed you, it is neceſſary I ſhould inform you, that on Sunday evening, a meſſenger brought me letters from Utrecht, dated October 5th, N.S. The Queen's Plenipotentiaries obſerve, that five or ſix of the States-General had even that morning been in conference with them; that they had, in a moſt pathetic manner, repreſented to them the reſolution their maſters had taken, to join with the Queen in all meaſures neceſſary to accompliſh the peace; that they had ſpoken to them of Tournay and Condé as of places, in the unanimous opinion of the republic, eſſential for the ſecurity of their barrier; and that, as to all other articles of the peace, they affected to ſhow great facility and perfect ſubmiſſion to the Queen. You ſee, Sir, the plea the Hollanders have taken; you know well the ſtate of our domeſtic affairs, for, whenever I ſpoke to you on that ſubject, I never diſguiſed any thing; reflect as a great and able Miniſter on the part we muſt take, and be aſſured I will make no other uſe of the confidence you may think proper to repoſe in me, than that which becomes a man of honour and your ſervant.

The anſwer I give, by the Queen's order, to the overtures of the Miniſters of the States, is ſufficiently general. I expect a repetition of their inſtances; and as the Earl of Strafford is to come to Court in a few days, to receive the Order of the Garter, he will doubtleſs be charged with what thoſe Miniſters may ſay, and with all the aſſurances they may give, for an entire reconciliation with the Queen, and for the concluſion of their peace with that of her Majeſty.

Majeſty. I have even ſome reaſon to think this Miniſter will be authorized to ſay, that, provided the States may keep Tournay, they will no longer heſitate to come into all the meaſures that may be required of them. I muſt not launch out into a reaſoning upon theſe facts, you ſee, at one glance, much more that I am able to ſuggeſt: it were better for me to cloſe my my letter, aſſuring you I am, &c.

B.

Memorial, preſented by Mr. Prior to the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 88.)

October 3d-14th, 1712.

PURSUANT to directions from the Earl of Dartmouth, in his letter of the 15th ult. I have the honour to repreſent to you, that having examined the terms of the act of renunciation, it was found expedient to make the ſubjoined additions *. As, at the ſame time, you were pleaſed to agree, that theſe additions ſhould be inſerted in the act; and have only objected to the following—"After the words *paſt and tranſmitted*, ſhould be inſerted the names of the perſons to whom the right of ſucceſſion ſhould be declared to belong, by virtue of the renunciation."

According to your intentions and my duty, I ſent to England your conſent to the additions, and your objection to this, as alſo your letter to Lord Bolingbroke on the ſubject.

The whole having been deliberately examined by the Queen in Council, her Majeſty has, through the Earl of Dartmouth, commanded me to communicate to you her ſentiments and reſolve thereupon.

That as to the objection, that Philip being a foreign Prince, would take upon him, by this nomination, to regulate, in ſome ſort, the ſucceſſion to the Crown of France, the anſwer is evident;—that Philip, with reſpect to this act, neither can nor ought to be conſidered as a foreign Prince, and does not appear in it in that quality, but, on the contrary, in that of a Prince of the blood of France; and ſo near in the line of ſucceſſion to that Crown, that, on this conſideration alone, it has been already agreed, that it was not poſſible to ſecure a laſting peace for Europe, if Philip did not renounce the Crown of France, as well for himſelf as for his deſcendants, without intending any reſervation of his rights and pretenſions, in any manner whatever: that being the caſe, it is found abſolutely neceſſary to enumerate the legitimate order of ſucceſſion to the Crown of France, by virtue of the renunciation; for that act would appear very imperfect, which ſhould ſay negatively that Philip and his deſcendants renounce the Crown of France, if the Princes who are called to it, by virtue of the ſame act, ſhould not be poſitively named: and ſo far is Philip from being regarded at preſent as a foreign Prince, that he can only be conſidered by the Queen in that light after the full execution of the ſaid act. Even in the act it is ſtated, in general terms, that Philip gives up his right to all the branches of the royal family of France, even to the moſt diſtant: he cannot be thought by that to give them a new right, nor to diſpoſe of the Crown of France in favour of any of them. So that by naming thoſe Princes who are neareſt, and who are to ſucceed more immediately to that Crown, he cannot be thought to give to them any other right than what comes to them by the order of blood, by means of the renunciation; and ſo far from naming afreſh the ſucceſſors to the Crown of France, he only repeats thoſe who are already more eſpecially called to it. When he renounces the Crown of France, for himſelf and for all his poſterity, he conſents that this right ſhould be looked upon as paſſed and tranſmitted to him who ſhould be found next in degree, immediately after the King, the preſent Dauphin, and their deſcendants; and conſequently, the caſe happening, this right falls directly to the Duke of Berry, and his deſcendants for ever: and failing them, to the Duke of Orleans, and his deſcendants for ever: there can be no difficulty in enumerating their names, as the meaning of the act includes their nomination.

It is added, that in the authentic act of agreement for the ſuſpenſion of arms in Flanders, this devolition of the rights of the Dukes of Berry and Orleans, and of their deſcendants, has been already particularly ſpecified and declared.

The Queen has given her orders to Lord Lexington, before his departure from England, in conformity with the memorial which I have the honour to preſent to you; and as France

* I do not ſend them, as they were all agreed to, except what follows.

has

has already engaged that the renunciation ſhall be made in the manner moſt ſatisfactory to her Majeſty, ſhe is perſuaded the King will not delay to aſſiſt, with her Majeſty, in removing this difficulty, and to take from the enemies to the peace every occaſion to pretend there is any omiſſion in the conſtruction of an act, on the explication of which depend the friendſhip and good correſpondence between the kingdoms of Great Britain, France, and Spain, and the future ſecurity of all Chriſtendom.

The Nomination of the Princes of the Blood, &c. (Page 89.)

Verſailles, October 15th, 1712.

IT is my will, and I conſent, for myſelf and my ſaid deſcendants, that, as well now as in future, this right ſhould be regarded as gone by, and tranſmitted to my brother, the Duke of Berry, and to his children and deſcendants male, and born in lawful wedlock; failing them, to my uncle the Duke of Orleans, and to his children and deſcendants male, born in lawful wedlock; failing them, to my couſin, the Duke of Bourbon, and to his children and deſcendants male, born in lawful wedlock: ſo ſucceſſively to all the Princes of the blood of France, their children and deſcendants male for ever, according to the rank and order by which they ſhall be called to the Crown, by right of birth, conſequently to him, among the ſaid Princes (I being, as alſo my deſcendants, excluded and incapacitated) who may be found neareſt in degree immediately after the King, by whoſe death the ſaid Crown of France would become vacant, and to whom the ſucceſſion ſhall belong, at whatever time and in whatever caſe it may happen, that he may have it and poſſeſs it as true and lawful ſucceſſor, in the ſame manner as if I and my deſcendants had never been born.

To the Duke de Noailles. (Page 92.)

Whitehall, September 11th, 1712, O.S.

YOU can never, Sir, do me greater pleaſure, than when you furniſh the opportunity of being of ſervice to thoſe who have the happineſs to enjoy your protection, and I will endeavour to act in ſuch a manner as to convince you that I ſhall never forget the favours you have conferred upon me.

Preſerve for me, Sir, the friendſhip you promiſed me, and be aſſured that, in all circumſtances of my life, I ſhall never ceaſe to be, &c.

To the Duke d'Aumont. (Page 93.)

Whitehall, November 11th, 1712, O.S.

THE news juſt arrived from Spain will haſten the concluſion of the great work of the peace; ſuch is the reflection of a Miniſter: they will oblige the Duke d'Aumont to repair hither ſoon; ſuch is the reflection of a friend:—you have given me the liberty, Sir, to aſſume this title, and I will never drop it. The Abbé Gaultier tells me, you are waiting for paſſports from Holland, to ſend off your equipage: it appears to me that theſe paſſports are not very neceſſary, ſince you may have a frigate or two to convoy them: it is a long time ſince I offered your ſteward to ſend the Queen's orders for two ſhips that are now in the Downs. We loſt our opportunity to hire the Earl of Leiceſter's houſe, which I am ſorry for, becauſe it will be very difficult to find another that may ſuit you; however, I ſhall not fail to contribute my endeavours to that purpoſe.

The Duke of Hamilton had orders on Sunday to haſten his departure, and I believe he ſets out in ten or twelve days.

Mr. Prior returns this week to France: he will be intruſted to renew my aſſurances how perfectly I am, &c.

To

To Madame de Feriole. (Page 94.)

MADAM,

Whitehall, November 11th, 1712, O.S.

HIS Royal Highneſs has had the goodneſs to promiſe, that as ſoon as he gets poſſeſſion of Savoy, he will confirm to the Abbé Tencin his Majeſty's gift of the Abbey de l'Abondance.

I give you joy of this good news; and if the ſucceſs I have had in the execution of your firſt orders, procures me the honour of receiving others, I am ſufficiently happy.

Mr. Prior ſets off this week on his return to Paris; I propoſed to him the exchange of employments, but he ſhowed his wiſdom in not liſtening to me: all that I can obtain from him is, a promiſe that he will aſſure you of that perfect eſteem with which I am, &c.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 94.)

SIR,

Verſailles, October 17th, 1712.

THE letter you did me the honour to write, and which I received by Mr. Prior, gives me hopes of ſoon receiving another, which will contain the Queen of Great Britain's intentions upon all the articles in my letter of the 27th ult.

It is a great pleaſure to me, Sir, to receive your orders frequently, and at the ſame time aſſurances of your friendſhip, of which I deſire the continuance more than I can poſſibly expreſs.

We have had a little conteſt, Mr. Prior and I, reſpecting the enumeration, which your advocates will have made, of all the Princes of the blood; I think, however, you will find I am right, when you have read the propoſal I made to him, and of which I ſubjoin a copy. It ſeems to me to give to the act of renunciation all the force you can wiſh, and we avoid making out a long liſt, tending only to obſcure an act which it is neceſſary ſhould be very clear and very intelligible.

The arms you may furniſh me with will be always good, it remains only to make a proper uſe of them, and I ought often to wiſh they were in better hands, conſidering the importance of the buſineſs in queſtion; I believe, however, there is ground to hope, more than ever, that, with your aſſiſtance, we ſhall be fortunate, and make the harbour at laſt.

It ſeems the Hollanders begin to relent, and your Plenipotentiaries have declared to thoſe of his Majeſty, that the States-General now conſented to treat, upon the baſis that Liſle ſhould be reſtored to his Majeſty. This is one ſtep; it will be followed by others, but the firſt is always the moſt difficult.

It is highly neceſſary, Sir, that the Queen ſhould urge the Duke of Savoy to conclude; he ſtops at trifles, and while he is diſputing for a few ſummits of the Alps, or a few villages which he will not obtain, he runs the riſk of loſing Sicily; for there is much diſorder in that iſland, and its inhabitants, by nature reſtleſs, declare openly it were better to chooſe a maſter, and to give themſelves up to the Houſe of Auſtria, than to ſuffer themſelves to be diſpoſed of like a flock of ſheep. If the peace were made, it would be eaſy, immediately afterwards, to give the Duke of Savoy poſſeſſion of Sicily, and he would then know how to keep his new ſubjects to their duty.

The Plenipotentiaries of Portugal ſay many ſilly things at Utrecht: it would be charity in the Queen to the Portugueſe, to require the King, their maſter, to demand a ſuſpenſion of arms as ſoon as poſſible. The Spaniards are at preſent beſieging Campo Mayor, which apparently will not hold out long, if briſkly attacked. The Portugueſe, on their ſide, have precipitately raiſed the ſiege of a caſtle called Caravajal, which they had begun to inveſt.

I write a long letter to the Lord Treaſurer on the ſubject of the diſagreeable occurrences in America. The King has conſidered it as an unfortunate accident, but as one of thoſe which could not be foreſeen, and which might have happened on your part the ſame as on that of France, without any cauſe of complaint. Nevertheleſs, his Majeſty propoſes expe-

dients to repair the loſs, though, in point of juſtice, he is under no obligation ſo to do; but he wiſhes to give you occaſion to ſilence the infidels.

I doubt not the Abbé Gaultier has given you an account of the propoſals I deſired him to make, to forward the ſigning of the peace, therefore I do not repeat them; and ſhould any one of them be agreeable to her Majeſty, I ſhall expect your orders. I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

The King of Spain has prorogued the opening of the States to the 20th inſtant, ſo that Lord Lexington will arrive at Madrid before the ſitting of the Aſſembly.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 97.)

Verſailles, October 21ſt, 1712.

YOU frequently alarm our Plenipotentiaries, Sir; and, whatever is done to remove their fears, their uneaſineſs returns the moment your Miniſters ſeem to ſupport the pretenſions of the Dutch.

You had provided me with a defence againſt ſuch terrors; and, beſides, I had received your laſt letter when I gave the King an account of the Earl of Strafford's journey to London, and the ſubſtance of his ſpeech at Utrecht before his departure.

I am, therefore, proof againſt all freſh aſſaults from the infidels, and I have no fear that the Queen of Great Britain will urge the King to deſiſt from the reſtitution of Tournay, as is expected in Holland; but I muſt compliment you, Sir, for having at laſt brought the Dutch to that point that the general peace now depends upon her Britannic Majeſty, for it is certain the States-General, having already conſented to the reſtitution of Liſle, will conſent much more eaſily to reſtore Tournay (ſo neceſſary for the French barrier) whenever the Queen ſhall pleaſe to tell them, they are fortunate that the King is contented with that town, as the only condition demanded by his Majeſty, equivalent to the ſucceſſes of a campaign which they might have avoided, by paying a proper deference to her councils and example.

Thus the concluſion of this great work is in her Britannic Majeſty's hands. Her orders to the Earl of Strafford will completely bring the Dutch to their ſenſes; and I am perſuaded, Sir, you will loſe no time in ſending him back to Holland, inſtructed in what he is to ſay to oblige that republic to recede upon the article of Tournay. They are not in a ſtate to conteſt the point much longer; and you know better than any one how embarraſſed they would be, if they were forced to ſtand another campaign.

Then finiſh the whole, ſince it is now brought to maturity, and ſave her Majeſty the uneaſineſs of ſoliciting the King in vain, now ſhe knows his intentions: and how diſtreſſing it would be to him to refuſe her requeſts.

In truth, Sir, Sicily having been granted to your ſolicitation with ſo good a grace, entitles us to expect that you would not interfere with reſpect to Tournay, except in our favour; and force our enemies, by your remonſtrances, to conclude a peace, of which their provinces are in ſo much want: that the Queen would command the Earl of Strafford to ſpeak in a deciſive manner upon his return to the Hague, and I will be anſwerable to you for the ſucceſs. It is more worth while to confer an obligation upon enemies, as we were formerly, than upon ſuch friends as the Dutch are now.

You may perhaps think I am giving way to the reſtleſſneſs of our infidels; far from it, I aſſure you: no perſon whatever has more reliance on your word than I have.

The Duke of Argyle arrived here the day-before yeſterday, and had the honour to ſee the King on the following morning. He appeared very well ſatisfied with his Majeſty's intentions, and I ſuppoſe he will give an exact account of them to the Queen. He agrees with us, that it is for our mutual intereſt that the ſubjects of her Britannic Majeſty ſhould be diſſuaded, as much as poſſible, from ſending corn to Barcelona, as long as the Germans continue in Catalonia. I am, &c.

DE. TORCY.

The King has certain information, Sir, that the Dutch have reſolved to give up Tournay, and only intend to make an attempt to keep it, which they themſelves know will be uſeleſs.

From

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 99.)

SIR,

Verſailles, October 26th, 1712.

YOU will have ſeen, by the letter I had the honour to write to you, the 21ſt inſtant, that the King was informed of the Earl of Strafford's journey to London, and of the principal commiſſion he was charged with by the States-General to the Queen.

To-day I ſhould have had only to repeat what I obſerved to you in the ſame letter, with regard to Tournay, had not Mr. Prior ſpoken to me upon that ſubject with ſome warmth, and uſed the moſt preſſing reaſons to induce the King to give it up, with a view of accelerating the peace. I own, Sir, I was not of his opinion; I even ſhowed him, that the Queen and he thought differently, for her Britannic Majeſty approved the declaration made by the Plenipotentiaries of France to thoſe of Great Britain, which leaves nothing uncertain in the King's intentions with reſpect to Tournay. I know not whether I convinced him, but I can aſſure you his arguments were leſs weighty with me, as in the whole of what he ſaid, I ſaw no aſſurance of a certain peace, though the King were willing to make another ſacrifice to the general good of Europe, by giving up Tournay, a place ſo conſiderable, and at the ſame time ſo neceſſary for the ſecurity of his frontier.

I have repeatedly read over your laſt letter, Sir, and with much attention; what ſtrikes me moſt forcibly in it is, that the Dutch have reſolved to unite with the Queen in all neceſſary meaſures for a peace; that, excepting the article about Tournay, they affect great compliance with all other conditions, and a perfect ſubmiſſion to the Queen of Great Britain's intentions. But I do not find they deſiſt from the other points contained in the laſt memorial they gave to your Plenipotentiaries. It does not appear that they explain themſelves clearly about the barrier, and as to commerce, they ſtill inſiſt upon the four ſpecies, which the King excepts from the tariff of 1664. They continue to ſpeak of the barrier on the ſide of the Empire in ſuch terms as his Majeſty can never admit; and laſtly, their excluding the Elector of Bavaria would deprive his Majeſty of all means to fulfil the engagements he is under to that Prince.

The article of Tournay muſt not, therefore, be conſidered as the only point that impedes the peace, as I ſuppoſed when I had the honour to write to you a few days ago, and according to what Mr. Prior told me yeſterday.

In truth, Sir, if all theſe difficulties were removed, if it were poſſible to ſecure for the Elector of Bavaria a remuneration conformable to the plan I ſent you, or, at leaſt, to give him, with Sardinia, what he now is in poſſeſſion of in the Low Countries, I own to you, that the certainty of a very ſpeedy peace, in which Holland would be a party with Great Britain, the honour and intereſt of the Queen, and, let me add, that of her Miniſters, would be very ſtrong reaſons to determine the King to a meaſure, which his Majeſty had reſolved never to agree to: you know alſo, he had grounds to believe the Queen would never preſs him upon this article.

It remains, therefore, with the Queen to judge, whether ſhe can give and execute theſe aſſurances; in this caſe, Tournay will not be an impediment to ſo great a bleſſing as that of peace. But if we are ſtill to encounter new difficulties from Holland, from the Duke of Savoy, or from the other Princes, whom the Queen may think neceſſary to join in the treaty, or if he muſt abandon ſuch an ally as the Elector of Bavaria, the King will not engage to deſiſt from ſo juſt a demand as that of the reſtitution of Tournay.

In one word, Sir, this compliance of his Majeſty muſt be the termination of the war, and the pledge of a certain peace between France, Great Britain, Holland, and thoſe of the allies whom you may induce to come in. If ſuch is not the caſe, the King demands the execution of the project agreed between his Majeſty and the Queen, that is to ſay, to make a ſeparate peace immediately after the renunciations are regiſtered.

This is all the King can do, and I am perſuaded you will think it a great deal, conſidering what I have ſaid or wrote to you, and alſo conſidering that his Majeſty is informed of the condition and the reſolutions of the Dutch. I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 101.)

Verſailles, October 26th, 1712.

THOUGH Matthew be the moſt unſufferable of human beings, yet I believe, my Lord, he is ſtill honeſt enough to labour faithfully, and to do his beſt to finiſh our work; we have therefore agreed that he ſhall ſet off for England, to aſſure you, better than I can myſelf, of our real and ſincere deſire to conclude with you, and with thoſe allies to whom you have extended a protection which they have ill-deſerved; but you, and the ſtate of your affairs, are the objects of our conſideration,.

Finiſh the buſineſs then, my Lord, as it all depends upon you, and ſend back Matthew as ſoon as poſſible, that I may have the pleaſure of hanging him, according to agreement, if the peace is not concluded by his Majeſty's giving up Tournay.

If he be ſincere, he will tell you how much I ſuffer, in my own perſon, from this altercation; the infidels triumph, and I meet with reproaches which other ſervices do not remove. But I ſuffer for you; and if the peace is made, as I hope it will, I ſhall be contented, even though Matthew eſcape a hanging. I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

I beg, Sir, your attention to the two memorials he will give you, the importance of which you are perfectly aware of.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 102.)

Marli, November 15th, 1712.

AT laſt, my Lord, the eſſential point, the renunciation of the King of Spain, has been executed at Madrid; and I can give you no better account of what paſſed on that occaſion, than by ſending you a copy of the letter, written by Monſieur de Bonac, upon leaving the Cortes where the buſineſs was tranſacted. I imagine Lord Lexington, who was witneſs to it, will give the Queen an account.

The regiſtering the act of renunciation will be made in the Parliament of Paris, as ſoon as the original, which we expect from Madrid, comes to hand; and authentic copies will be afterwards regiſtered in all the other Parliaments of the kingdom.

You ſee, my Lord, the King has completed his part; for the renunciations of the Dukes of Berry and Orleans are ready, and will be ſent to Spain, the moment the original act of the Catholic King's renunciation ſhall arrive. Therefore, from you, at preſent, we expect the conſummation of the work, and I am perſuaded you will not defer it. I own, I ſtrongly wiſh it may not be neceſſary to prolong the ſuſpenſion, which expires in a month.

I am waiting with impatience for news from Mr. Prior; and, whatever reaſon I may have to complain of him on my own account, I ſhall be very happy to ſee him again, without his meriting the gallows. His return will be ſo much more pleaſing to me, as I ſhall learn from him your particular news; and I aſſure you, my Lord, there is perhaps no place in the world, that feels a more ſenſible intereſt in every thing that relates to you, than we experience here.

The Duke d'Aumont is briſkly preſſing his departure, but I could wiſh Matthew returned before, though I have learned, to my coſt, that his councils are to be guarded againſt.

I am, &c. DE TORCY.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 103.)

SIR,

Whitehall, November 11th, O.S. 1712.

THOUGH Matthew is to ſet off at the end of the week, I could not, however, forego the opportunity of writing to you, by the meſſenger, which the Abbé Gaultier intends to diſpatch, and to tell you, I am much miſtaken, if you are not ſatisfied with us.

The

The Earl of Strafford's inſtructions are drawn up; and I ſhowed the Abbé an article in them, by which he is expreſsly ordered, as alſo the Biſhop of Briſtol, to declare to the Miniſters of the States, that it is the laſt time the Queen applies to them; that her Majeſty hopes they will accept the conditions offered to them, and coincide, without reſerve or farther delay, in the meaſures of the peace; that if they mean to loſe time by negociating, or to create new impediments by ulterior demands, the Queen will conclude her treaty with France and Spain, and will trouble herſelf no more with the intereſts of their republic.

For the reſt, you will permit me to refer to what I ſhall have the honour to write to you, in two days, by his Excellency Matthew. I think you will find him inſtructed to conclude every thing, and in ſpite of his phyſiognomy, which is not the happieſt, he ſhall not be hanged this time.

Before I conclude my letter, I muſt tell you, Sir, that I have detained a perſon named Beaulieu, who ſays he is a native of Languedoc. He pretends to have had an affair with M. de Baville, about a meeting of the Proteſtants, held in the Upper Vivares, and of a paſſport given to a perſon named Prurat, and on that account he retired from France. I know he was very active among the refugees, and I ſuſpect him of having formed ſchemes, chimerical indeed, but which ſhould not be the leſs attended to: I know his correſpondence, and have taken effectual meaſures to ſtop all his letters, and will inform you of what I may be able to diſcover.

I had finiſhed my letter when your meſſenger arrived, by whom I received the honour of your's of the 15th inſtant. I rejoice with you, Sir, at the good news; the enemies to the peace will no longer traverſe that great work, and I flatter myſelf in very few weeks we ſhall finiſh the whole.

Prior will ſoon enjoy a happineſs which I envy him, that of ſeeing and embracing you: the Duke of Hamilton will follow him very ſoon.

Adieu, Sir; amiable as you are, no one loves you ſo much as your, &c.

To the Chevalier de Molé. (Page 106.)

SIR,

Whitehall, November 14th, O.S. 1712.

I CANNOT reſiſt entreating you to grant your protection to Monſieur and Madame Calandrini, who are returning to Paris. They are apprehenſive of parties of Huſſars and others, who are ſaid to be hovering on the frontier: have the goodneſs to grant them eſcorts, if you think it neceſſary, and to recommend them to the Commander at Boulogne.

I muſt not let ſlip the opportunity to return you my very humble thanks for all the favours you heaped upon me, during my laſt journey. I feel a lively gratitude for them, and I venture to aſſure you, that I am, &c.

B.

I take the liberty to aſſure Madame de Molé of my very humble reſpects.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 107.)

SIR,

Whitehall, November 14th, O.S. 1712.

HOWEVER I may fear being importunate, I cannot reſiſt recommending the intereſts of Monſieur Calandrini again to you. I conſider them as my own; and as I never experienced a pang more keen than that cauſed by the misfortunes of that family, ſo I cannot expect a more lively pleaſure than that of ſeeing them reſtored, by the kind offices and powerful protection of the man in the world, to whom I wiſh moſt to be obliged.

The favour I aſk for them, and which would, though with loſs, extricate them from their difficulties, is, that Monſieur Deſmarets would have the goodneſs to change their aſſignments into bills of the Receivers-General, payable at the ſame periods, which are in 1714 and

1715; if they could at the ſame time obtain about fifty thouſand livres, on account of their aſſignments, the favour would be complete, and my obligation to you eternal.

Once more, pardon my importunity, and be perſuaded, I am, &c.

B.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 108.)

Whitehall, November O.S. 1712.

AT laſt, Sir, we are at the eve of the peace, and I hope you will find Mr. Prior's arguments, at his return, more concluſive than before his departure.

The Queen's firmneſs will conquer the obſtinacy of the Dutch, the compliances of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty will place the governors of that republic in a ſtate of inability to play the warrior any longer. So we reaſon here.

But if, contrary to expectation, the States-General ſhould determine, after the yielding Tournay, to make ulterior demands, and embarraſs the negociation anew, the Queen will content herſelf with having done all in her power for them, and in that caſe, Sir, her Majeſty's Plenipotentiaries will, with ſuch allies as wiſh to come in, ſign the ſeparate treaty with France and Spain.

What I have now the honour to write, is conformable to the inſtructions which the Earl of Strafford has juſt received, and this reſolution appears ſo deciſive, that it is no longer neceſſary to enter upon the diſcuſſion of many points in your letter of the 26th October. It ſeems to me, that we have reaſon to be ſatisfied with each other, and you will allow me, Sir, to ſay, that if the King, on his part, has made ſome ſacrifices for the ſake of the peace, the Queen, alſo, depending on the good faith of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty's intentions, has taken certain ſteps, which are beyond the ordinary rules of negociations, and which you know well, without its being neceſſary for me to remind you of them.

Mr. Prior will explain *vivâ voce*, her Majeſty's declarations to the States-General, reſpecting the intereſts of the Elector of Bavaria, and her Majeſty hopes the King will, in that, diſcern her wiſhes to pleaſe him in every thing that depends upon her. I muſt, however, ſay, Sir, that we cannot ſee how the pretenſions of that Prince came to be interwoven with the ceſſion of Tournay. When the queſtion was to give Sicily to the Duke of Savoy, you ſaid that kingdom was intended, by the King of Spain, for the Elector of Bavaria, who, conſequently, ought to be recompenſed, this recompence was even ſpecified, and Sardinia was demanded: but at preſent the caſe is widely different, and you will own Tournay would not be given to the Elector, if the Dutch were forced to give it up.

The ceſſion of Sicily being granted, and the Duke of Savoy's right to the Crown of Spain being ſubſtituted after King Philip and his children, we can no longer doubt this Prince will enter into all the meaſures neceſſary to procure a peace. The Queen reckons upon this, and indeed his Royal Highneſs is too well informed, to wiſh to give up ſuch real and ſubſtantial advantages as we propoſe for him, and to amuſe himſelf with the wild ſchemes of the Court of Vienna.

The article of the barrier on the ſide of France, appeared to be the ſtumbling block. You know, Sir, how inflexible you were upon it, and I can aſſure you, the Miniſters of Savoy have always ſpoken of it as eſſential to their maſter's intereſt, and without which he could not have that ſecurity, which his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty promiſed all the allies ſhould find in the peace. By what Mr. Prior will have the honour to repreſent to you, you will ſee this difficulty no longer ſubſiſts, and it ſeems to me, his Royal Highneſs confines himſelf to demand only what is contained in the offer of Exilles, Feneſtrelles, and the valley of Pragelas, or in plainer terms, what is abſolutely neceſſary to make thoſe places of any uſe to him. With reſpect to the liberty to fortify, which his Royal Highneſs wiſhes to have, notwithſtanding the treaty of 1696, I believe the King will have no difficulty to allow it, provided that Prince does not extend it to the rebuilding the fortifications of Pignerol.

I have looked over the drafts of the treaty drawn up at Utrecht, both by the King's Plenipotentiaries, and thoſe of her Majeſty; and I find no conſiderable difference between them, except

except upon two articles; that of North America, and that of Commerce. I will not enter into particulars, it is a matter of too extenſive diſcuſſion, and, inſtead of writing you a letter, I ſhould ſend you a volume. Mr. Prior will diſcourſe with you upon thoſe points, and I ſhall confine myſelf to entreat you would agree with him upon ſome expedients, that the Miniſters at Utrecht, having nothing to unravel, may concur unanimouſly in bringing over others to pacific meaſures.

I wiſh to finiſh this letter as I began it: at laſt, Sir, we are at the eve of the peace, do not let us be caſt away when in port, but conclude as ſoon as poſſible a work, upon the ſucceſs of which depends the happineſs of ſo many people, as well of the preſent, as of future ages. I am, &c. B.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 114.)

YOU will ſee, Sir, by the laſt letter I received from M. de Bonac, and of which I have the honour to ſend you the copy, that the act of renunciation of the King of Spain to the Crown of France, has been approved and regiſtered by the Cortes.

The execution of this act, which his Majeſty ſends hither in form, is not yet arrived, but the King did not wait for it, before the renunciations of the Dukes of Berry and Orleans were ſigned and ſent off to Madrid; they go by a ſpecial meſſenger, which the Duke d'Oſſune diſpatches to his maſter.

Thus, Sir, the King of Spain has renounced his right to the Crown of France, his renunciation is approved in Spain, and regiſtered by the Cortes.

The Princes of France, who might have a right to the Crown of Spain, have renounced it, and their renunciations, ſigned by them and ſent to Madrid, will be regiſtered by the Cortes directly after the arrival of the meſſenger.

The renunciation of the King of Spain to the Crown of France, ſhall be regiſtered immediately in the Parliament of Paris, and in all the other Parliaments of the kingdom, as it has been already received and regiſtered by the Cortes, and the meſſenger is expected with it every moment.

Thus then, what the King and the King of Spain promiſed, is in great part performed, and the remainder on the eve of being ſo entirely: I ſhould think that, affairs being in this ſituation, nothing ought to impede the concluſion of the peace; yet, Sir, at the time I expect from you nothing but good news, I own I cannot conceal my uneaſineſs at your and Mr. Prior's ſilence. Even the Abbé Gaultier has not written to me ſince the 11th inſtant. I believe you comprehend, and conſequently will eaſily excuſe my impatience at a criſis, when it is ſo important to act together.

I ſee alſo, they wiſh to accuſe France of retarding the concluſion of the peace, and you know, Sir, on the King's part, he has not loſt a moment. His Majeſty has even laboured for the intereſts of the Duke of Savoy, as earneſtly as if the treaty with that Prince had been already concluded, and yet he does not know in what ſtate the negociation is at Turin. It is aſſerted, and they write from ſome parts of Italy, that the Duke is endeavouring to unite himſelf more ſtrictly with the Houſe of Auſtria; that his principal object is to gain for the Prince of Piedmont, the Archduchеſs, daughter of the Emperor Joſeph, with the Milaneſe, as a portion; that he prefers the acquiſition of that duchy to that of Sicily, conſidering that kingdom as too far diſtant from his dominions for him ever to keep it, and the Milaneſe ſerving as a portion to the Archduchеſs, he would be perpetual governor of it.

I believe you may have had the ſame accounts, but it were better to repeat them than to let you remain ignorant of them. There is no room to doubt the Queen has taken proper meaſures to ſecure the Duke of Savoy. Upon this article, and upon all others which relate to the peace, the King has an entire confidence in her Britannic Majeſty's prudence.

But, Sir, it is time to conclude, and as it is from you, that we muſt expect the explanation of the whole, you muſt not be ſurpriſed if I eagerly require news from you. I do it with the greater confidence, as I know your ſentiments, and ſee plainly that it is no leſs conformable to the

the Queen's intereſt, than to her inclination, to conclude the work begun with ſpeed, which we now ſee nearly perfected.

I own to you I cannot help being alarmed at the diſcourſes which the enemies of the peace conſtantly hold againſt her Britannic Majeſty, though I know they have no other foundation, than the deſire they have to ſee the war ſtill going on. However vain their threats, I think I ought, nevertheleſs, to communicate to you the extract of a letter, written to the King's Ambaſſador in Switzerland, by a man in the neighbourhood of the canton of Berne. You will make what uſe you pleaſe of it, and I hope you will regard it ſimply as a ſpeech, the effects of which are not at all to be apprehended.

Lord Lexington will have informed the Queen, of the complaints made by the King of Spain, that the Commander of the Britiſh troops in Portugal, has not obſerved the ſuſpenſion, and has continued to act in favour of the Portugueſe. The conſequence was, the Spaniards were forced to raiſe the ſiege of Campo Mayor. I could wiſh, as ſome recompence, and for the welfare of our affairs, that the Queen would oblige M. de Staremberg to embark the German troops in Catalonia; but, in truth, I fear he is not to be perſuaded. I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

Marli, November 25th, 1712.

The King makes the Duke d'Aumont Knight of his Orders, before his departure.

Let me again, my Lord, preſs you, for the good of our concerns, to let me hear from you, and to loſe no time in concluding, as you ſee on the King's ſide not a moment has been loſt to fulfil his promiſes.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 117.)

Whitehall, November 21ſt, O.S. 1712.

I SEE, Sir, by the laſt letters you honoured me with, and which la Vigne gave me yeſterday, your impatience to hear from us.

As I find this impatience well founded, I would not wait the departure of Mr. Prior, but ſend you the ſame meſſenger, charged with the incloſed, which Matthew was to have delivered.

That dark-viſaged gentleman will not begin his journey before Monday next, and you will not be ſurpriſed at the delay, when you learn the ſad adventure of laſt Saturday. The Abbé Gaultier will certainly have informed you, that the Duke of Hamilton fought a duel with Lord Mohun, and both were killed on the ſpot.

The Queen will immediately name another Ambaſſador, and I am much deceived if you are not pleaſed with him.

The King and the King of Spain, have nearly fulfilled all they promiſed, in regard to the great article to prevent the re-union of the two monarchies. I acknowledge it, Sir, and I ſhould be unhappy, if, on our ſide, any thing had been neglected, that could contribute to forward the concluſion of the great work of the peace. Without my telling you, you know the nature of our government, the genius of our people, what meaſures we have to keep, how many tempers we have to manage; ſo that you will not be ſurpriſed, if the anſwers you expect from hence, do not come with that expedition, which the preſent conjuncture ſeems to require.

For once I hope you will find a recompence for our ſlowneſs, in the deciſive reſolve which the Earl of Strafford carries to Holland.

What you take notice of in your letters, of the intrigues carried on by the Duke of Savoy at the Court of Vienna, agrees with the advices we have from time to time received. In the other letter I have touched upon the reaſons, which have prevented the Queen's attention to them. I will add in this, that the Imperial Miniſters have, on many occaſions, affected the like inſinuations, wiſhing no better ſport than to embroil his Royal Highneſs with the Queen, and to make his reconciliation with the King more difficult.

I am extremely obliged to you for the account you give of the threats made by the enemies to the peace. I dare ſay, the Queen extends a little too far that maxim of Cæſar, that it were

better to die at once, than to live in the continual fear of death; but we who have the honour to ſerve her, will neglect nothing that may contribute to guard a life ſo valuable as hers.

Her Majeſty is much concerned for what has happened in Portugal; the commandant of the troops excuſes himſelf, by ſaying, he did not fail to publiſh and obſerve the ſuſpenſion of arms, as ſoon as he received his orders. My opinion is, that the Portugueſe intercepted the firſt diſpatches from the Earl of Dartmouth upon the ſubject. I know not what choice M. de Staremburg will take, it is impoſſible he can maintain himſelf in Catalonia, and if he refuſes to embark his Germans, I fancy he will find ſome difficulty in making his retreat, as Xenophon did his.

The Abbé Gaultier made me very unhappy, when he told me the Biſhop of Briſtol had given the Duke de St. Pierre a very cold reception. I have written to that good man, in the ſtrongeſt terms, that it was the Queen's intention he ſhould exert himſelf to the utmoſt, jointly with the Miniſters of France, in ſupport of the Duke's intereſt. By the firſt meſſenger I will repeat theſe orders, in ſuch terms as will melt the ice.

I am too much the Duke d'Aumont's ſervant, not to take a ſenſible ſhare in the favour the King has conferred upon him, and I beg you to aſſure him of it.

It is time to conclude a letter, written in much haſte, and which you will perhaps have ſome trouble to read. I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

In caſe the Biſhop of Tournay keeps his biſhopric, we think the Abbé Gaultier might be directly appointed his coadjutor, for reaſons we have formerly mentioned.

If any meaſures are to be taken by us, you have only to inform me of them, for we are entirely diſpoſed to ſerve him, and in truth he has deſerved well both of France and England.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 120.)

SIR,

Whitehall, November 26th, O.S. 1712.

THOUGH the death of the Duke of Hamilton, and ſome other intervening accidents have retarded the return of Mr. Prior to France, and have cauſed ſome delay in our affairs, which they were not in want of, yet I believe her Majeſty's late reſolves will repair this loſs of time, and prevent all impediment that might protract the concluſion of our great work.

Her Majeſty has named the Duke of Shrewſbury her Ambaſſador to France, and as he will ſet off from hence, without waiting for his equipage, I hope in a fortnight, reckoning from the end of this week, he will arrive at Paris.

I ſend you an agreement to prolong the ſuſpenſion of arms; you will have the goodneſs to ſign one copy, and return it by this meſſenger.

I thought the clauſe of ratification not neceſſary to be inſerted; if you think otherwiſe, you need only addreſs the King's ratification to the Abbé Gaultier, and I will immediately let him have that of the Queen.

The King of Spain's renunciation to the Crown of France, has been made in the ſtrongeſt terms, and in the moſt ſolemn manner. Her Majeſty doubts not the renunciation of the Dukes of Berry and Orleans will be conceived in terms as ſtrong, and all other acts, neceſſary for the accompliſhment of this article, will be done in a manner equally ſolemn and authentic.

But, Sir, in order to be more certain in our meaſures, to prevent the leaſt miſunderſtanding, which might create delay in the courſe of this buſineſs, the Queen has ordered me to ſignify to you, her wiſhes to have a copy of the renunciations of the Dukes of Berry and Orleans to the Crown of Spain, and alſo of other acts which may be paſſed on this occaſion, purſuant to the plan, to prevent the re-union of the two monarchies, as contained in the articles propoſed by the Queen, 6th June, O.S. and accepted by the King 22d of the ſame month, N.S. 1712. If I do not receive what I now requeſt, in time for the Duke of Shrewſbury to have the Queen's laſt orders upon that ſubject, before his departure, I depend, however, upon his

his knowing her Majeſty's ſentiments upon his arrival at Paris, though he may not know them when he leaves London. I am, &c.

B.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 123.)

Verſailles, November 29th, 1712.

IT is eaſy for you, my Lord, to be ſecure of my ſatisfaction, ſince you know by experience you always ſucceed whenever you were ſo inclined, and you poſſeſſed that inclination when you drew up the article you did me the honour to communicate, as an inſtruction to the Earl of Strafford. It is calculated to haſten a deciſion, which I no longer doubt, on the part of the Dutch. The ſtate of their affairs will not allow them to ſupport the war any longer, and certainly they are too fortunate in having the honour to be preſſed to make a peace, of which they ſtand more in need than any other nation.

They will not refuſe her Majeſty's good offices; and I own, my Lord, that amidſt the general intereſts, I feel a particular pleaſure in ſeeing Matthew has eſcaped the danger that threatened him. I loſe by it a ſpeech which certainly would be affecting, but I expect to be recompenſed by other advantages.

The King, Sir, is very ſenſible of your attention in detaining Beaulieu; I ſhall know from M. de Baville what this man is, for he is unknown here, and you know better than any one how viſionary the ſchemes of theſe wretches generally are. However, for reaſons which you yourſelf urge with much prudence, I muſt beg you will inform me, of any thing you may diſcover of his intrigues. It is the mutual intereſt of France and Great Britain, that nothing ſhould diſturb the quiet of the two kingdoms, and that thoſe, who dare make the attempt, ſhould meet with certain puniſhment. You will probably judge I deſerve to be puniſhed for the impatience ſhown in my laſt letter, and I confeſs I was a little aſhamed of it, after reading what you did me the honour to write; but in truth, my Lord, what we deſire with eagerneſs, we cannot wait for with compoſure; and I ſhould diſhonour our labours, if I could wait the completion of them with perfect unconcern.

I wiſh Mr Prior may have given you a faithful account of our concern for you here, but I doubt his exactneſs upon this article. If I am miſtaken, or if I ſuſpect him wrongfully, he may, my Lord, on his return here, let you know the preference given to every thing admirable when he is compared to you. I do not make theſe compariſons, for, in my opinion, none are equal to you, and no perſon can be more truly than I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Duke de St. Pierre. (Page 125.)

Whitehall, December 2nd, O.S. 1712.

IN truth, Sir, the little ſervice I have hitherto been able to do you, does not deſerve the obligation you expreſs yourſelf to be under for it. Far from being ſatisfied with what I have done, I ſhall avail myſelf of every means that may contribute to the ſucceſs of your pretenſions, and in the moſt eſſential inſtructions to the Queen's Plenipotentiaries, they will find in every diſpatch, repeated orders to unite with theMiniſters of the Moſt Chriſtian King in your favour. I have told them, and I have the honour to aſſure you, that they can pleaſe the Queen in no better manner, than by ſupporting your intereſt in the moſt active and effectual manner.

Finally, Sir, if in the courſe of this buſineſs, you think proper to give me farther orders, I beg you to write to me without ceremony, and to be fully perſuaded that the brother-in-law of Monſieur de Torcy has every right in the world to the abſolute command of him who has the honour to be, &c.

B.

To

To Count de Saaros. (Page 129.)

SIR,

Whitehall, December 3d, 1712.

On Monday laſt I received the honour of your letter of the 9th inſtant, N.S. from the port of Hull, and the Queen being ſtill at Windſor Caſtle, I could not anſwer you ſooner than to-day. I diſpatch this evening the Queen's orders, as well to Hull as to Harwich, to provide you a veſſel to convey you to France without delay, in caſe the captain of the veſſel, in which you came from Dantzick, ſhould not like to make this ſhort trip. M. Roſenau having left this country ſome time, I return you the letter you ſent me for him.

I wiſh you, Sir, a fortunate voyage, and I beg you to believe me, &c.

B.

To the Duke of Savoy. (Page 130.)

MY LORD,

Whitehall, December 4th, O.S. 1712.

I OWN I am at the ſummit of my wiſhes, ſince your Royal Highneſs has condeſcended to teſtify you are contented with my conduct, and the honour you have juſt conferred upon me, by your letter of the 16th of October, which M. de Mellarede gave me, would ſatisfy an ambition much more extenſive than mine; the beſt manner in which I can return ſuch favour and goodneſs, will be to continue, with the ſame zeal that has hitherto animated me to labour for the intereſts of that Prince, who, of all others, beſt deſerves to govern.

Your Royal Highneſs is, doubtleſs, informed, from the report of your Miniſter, how much the Queen is diſpoſed to favour all your pretenſions.

There is not, to my knowledge, a ſingle propoſition, among all the repreſentations of M. de Mellarede, to which her Majeſty has not given her conſent; and I have the honour to aſſure your Royal Highneſs, that the inſtructions, as well to the Plenipotentiaries as to the Duke of Shrewſbury, who is in a few days going to the Court of France, are conformable to your wiſhes, and drawn up from the memorials of your Miniſters.

I muſt not finiſh this letter, without expreſſing, to your Royal Highneſs, the gratitude I feel, for your compliance with my requeſt to give the Abbey de l'Abondance to the Abbé de Tencin.

As the obligations I am under to your Lordſhip are far beyond my expreſſion, I will confine myſelf to aſſuring your Royal Highneſs, that my moſt reſpectful attachment to you ſhall only ceaſe with my life, and that among thoſe who have the happineſs of being your ſubjects, there is no one more devoted to you than, &c.

B.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 131.)

Verſailles, December 10th, 1712.

AFTER having tired you, Sir, with one of my letters, I reply to that you did me the honour to write with your own hand, and which I received by La Vigne. You do me great pleaſure in approving my impatience; it would have been impoſſible for me to correct it though you had condemned it, and I ſhould be very ſorry to retain an imperfection with which you would have to reproach me.

It is a national defect in France to be eager and impatient, and when the anſwers, upon an affair of ſuch importance, as that of the peace, do not come up to the expectation of the public, voices, without number, are raiſed againſt thoſe whom they ſuppoſe have the conduct of the buſineſs. Sometimes alſo it happens, that private intereſt is at the bottom of the cenſure of the public, and I do aſſure you, there are times when the moſt perfect Stoic would find it difficult to preſerve his equanimity. In a word, my Lord, if in this country, we are not obliged to conſult the minds of men, we at leaſt find, by daily experience, that in ſpite of national differences, all men are alike in their manner of thinking. I entreat you then, never more to condemn the impatience I may ſhow to you, though I am convinced you will not loſe

a moment in the final completion of the work; without your care, it had never been in the ſtate in which we now ſee it.

I hope the Earl of Strafford will diſconcert all the intrigues formed to prevent its concluſion, and at length will extinguiſh that warlike ſpirit which pervades Holland. It ſeems they ſtill flattered themſelves with retaining the Duke of Savoy in the intereſt of the Houſe of Auſtria. He was promiſed a powerful and certain interceſſion, to ſecure the marriage of the Prince of Piedmont with the eldeſt Archduchеſs, and as the language varies according to contingencies, ſo they aſſert, that the Penſionary would do his utmoſt that the propoſal ſhould have the ſupport of France and Great Britain. You aſſure, me, Sir, there is no occaſion to attend to ſuch projects, and I am alſo perſuaded, the Duke of Savoy is too wiſe to give credit to the Imperial Miniſters' inſinuations, though countenanced by thoſe of Holland, and to expoſe himſelf to the riſk of loſing the fruits of all her Majeſty's exertions in his favour.

You know, Sir, the mode of retreat chalked out by the Court of Vienna for M. de Staremberg, and conſidering your ſhips of war almoſt as the King of Perſia, they will have him embark, with his eighteen thouſand, on board the frigates which M. Heimes is equipping at Amſterdam. The Duke of Savoy is already threatened with the halt which theſe forces, coming from Catalonia into Italy, will make in the Milaneſe.

If we conſult the general intereſt, juſtice, and the welfare of the peace, it becomes his Majeſty, in concert with the Queen, to take effectual meaſures to free the Princes of Italy from the oppreſſion they labour under from the Germans. In truth, the conduct of thoſe Princes merits little attention from France, but we muſt have compaſſion on their weakneſs, and ſnatch them from the greedy gripe of thoſe who intend to devour them.

The weather is ſo tempeſtuous that I ſhall be uneaſy about Matthew until I ſee him; ſince he is not to be hanged, I ſhould be ſorry he were drowned. When his Excellency is arrived, we may wait with more patience the arrival of the ambaſſador in the room of the Duke of Hamilton. His death was truly unfortunate; and it is a great advantage to a kingdom to be able to curb the fury of ſuch combats, in which thoſe periſh, who, at ſome time or other, may be of ſervice to the ſtate.

I reckon the Marquis de Montéleon will be immediately in London; I have been urgent with him to ſet off, becauſe I hope you will be able to ſettle with him the difficulties which my Lord Lexington may meet with, in treating with the Spaniards. Diligence is not the characteriſtic of that nation, and ignorance frequently increaſes their natural ſlowneſs. Montéleon has wit, and means well, and I hope you will find him ready to accommodate any thing that may have given uneaſineſs at Madrid. It remains for me to thank you, my Lord, for the paragraph in your letter reſpecting the Duc de St. Pierre: though I am alive to his intereſt, I own I am more ſo to this mark of the honour of your friendſhip, and nothing would be more pleaſing to me than to be able to make known to you what I feel at this freſh proof of it. The continuance of your kind offices will be very neceſſary for the Duke, and to give you more particular information of the juſtice of his demands, permit me, my Lord, to ſend you the printed memorial which I received from him.

I executed your orders with reſpect to the Duke d'Aumont, and read to him the paragraph in your letter which relates to him. He will ſoon have the pleaſure of thanking you in perſon for the intereſt you have taken in the favour his Majeſty has done him before his departure.

As for myſelf, Sir, I ſhall find as many charms in the dark-viſaged gentleman as in Madame de Parabeſe, when I receive from him intelligence from you. I ſhould not probably have ventured to uſe ſo honourable a phraſe, did I not ſuppoſe him to be now on this ſide of the water, and, conſequently, out of the reach of my letter. I would not he ſhould have to reproach me upon his arrival, for he would find a method to be revenged. I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

Some days ago, I wrote to the Abbé, upon the fancy he has got into his head of being a Biſhop. Mankind often aſk of the Almighty what would be their deſtruction, and he rejects the prayers of thoſe he loves. He who has laboured ſo hard for the public quiet, muſt not be left in a ſituation, where he would be tormented all his life. And in truth, my Lord, what the Abbé Gaultier's friends ought to wiſh, and to ſelect for him, is a good abbey, the revenues

venues of which he may quietly receive and conſume, without being forced to trouble himſelf with the care of a dioceſe, eſpecially ſuch a one as Tournay, where he would have to manage different intereſts, and would be always liable to troubles without number or end. The King is very well diſpoſed towards him, and he will certainly not be without a conſiderable abbey.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 134.)

Verſailles, December 11th, 1712.

I RECEIVE, Sir, with much pleaſure, the aſſurances you give me in your letter of November the 21ſt, O.S. of a ſpeedy concluſion of the peace. Were I not, as I really am, diſpoſed to believe you, it would not be allowable, I think, to doubt the ſucceſs of a negociation which the King and the Queen of Great Britain have equally promoted by the ſureſt means to bring it to a concluſion.

I hope then, Sir, the firſt news from Holland, after the arrival of the Earl of Strafford, will inform us that the Dutch have at laſt yielded to the Queen's firmneſs, and if the cabal of warriors, induced that republic to eſpouſe a different intereſt, nothing would be ſo efficient to bring the Dutch at laſt to reaſon and their real intereſt, as the reſolution of her Majeſty to ſign a ſeparate treaty with the King and the King of Spain, to which ſhould be admitted ſuch of the allies of her Britannic Majeſty as were inclined to accede to it.

You have reaſon to believe, Sir, that the King is ſatisfied with this reſolution, and you have ſeen, ſince the commencement of the negociation, that his Majeſty always acted like one convinced that the conſequences would be ſuch as have occurred, and perfectly anſwering the entire confidence he placed in her Britannic Majeſty.

The King obſerves, with ſatisfaction, your account of Mr. Prior's general orders, reſpecting the intereſts of the Elector of Bavaria. The Queen of Great Britain has done ſo much for the Duke of Savoy, that ſhe can eaſily ſuppoſe how much his Majeſty is intereſted for the Elector, to procure him a reparation for his loſſes. Let me, Sir, differ with you in part in what you ſay on the ſubject of Tournay, for it is true, and I can aſſure you of it, the King would willingly have ceded that place to augment his remuneration. If the Duke of Savoy confines his pretenſions to what his Majeſty has offered him, all difficulties upon the barrier demanded by that Prince on the ſide of France, are removed, for nothing remains but the liberty to fortify; and his Majeſty will grant him that, in conſideration of the Queen of Great Britain, provided he engages at the ſame time to obſerve the treaty of Turin in 1696, relative to Pignerole, and to leave that place incloſed only with a wall, without ever rebuilding the fortifications.

You refer me to what Mr. Prior is ordered to ſay, on the ſubject of the Duke of Savoy; on that account I wait to ſpeak to him, as alſo to ſettle with him the two difficulties which you ſtill meet with in the draughts of the treaties drawn at Utrecht. I hope he will come well inſtructed in the Queen's intentions, and that we ſhall eaſily hit upon ſome expedient to eſtabliſh a perfect underſtanding between the King's Plenipotentiaries and thoſe of the Queen of Great Britain, at the conferences of Utrecht.

Thus, Sir, you will have the pleaſure to ſee your opinion confirmed, and the day faſt approaching when the concluſion of a good peace will give happineſs to ſo many nations.

As in the mean time we muſt carefully guard againſt any act of hoſtility that may happen between thoſe who, for four months, have not looked upon each other as enemies, the King thinks there is not a moment to be loſt, in publiſhing his orders to prolong the ſuſpenſion of arms, which expires, as you know, Sir, the 22d inſtant; I ſend you the draught of this ordinance, and I can receive your anſwer by the meſſenger, whom I diſpatch to you, before the time expires. I therefore beg you will let me know, if this draught is conformable to the Queen's ſentiments, and her Britannic Majeſty will iſſue a like proclamation. According to form, it ſhould be preceded by an agreement ſigned in the name, and by virtue of power from the King and from the Queen of Great Britain. If the Duke d'Aumont were now in London, he might ſign this agreement with you, or I might ſign it with Mr. Prior if he were here; but the ordinance and the proclamation will ſuppoſe the thing done, and the

eſſential point is to make known their Majeſties' pleaſure, with reſpect to the continuation of the ſuſpenſion.

The ſuſpenſion may alſo be ſigned at Utrecht by the Plenipotentiaries. The King ſends orders accordingly, and the buſineſs will be ſoon concluded, if the Queen's Miniſters have ſimilar orders. However, to avoid every inconvenience at ſea, the King ſends intelligence to all the ports, that the ſuſpenſion will be prolonged: and theſe, Sir, are all the precautions that can be taken.

The Duke d'Aumont has taken leave of the King; he leaves Paris on Thurſday next, and as he hopes the Queen will ſend one of her yatchs to Calais, he will diſpatch a meſſenger to inform you exactly of the day he may be there.

The King was very ſorry to hear the unhappy accident of the Duke of Hamilton: his ſucceſſor to this Court is named, but with no certainty. His Majeſty is fully perſuaded, that a perſon, appointed by the Queen, will have nothing more at heart than to ſtrengthen that good underſtanding and union which an advantageous peace will ſoon reſtore. I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 137.)

SIR,

Verſailles, December 14th, 1712.

BY the expreſs meſſenger I received the honour of your letter of the 26th November, O.S. with two copies of the act, ſigned by you, to prolong the ſuſpenſion of arms for four months. I have ſigned it by the King's order, and his Majeſty has commanded me to return you one of the duplicates, as I do, by the ſame meſſenger. The publication will ſerve for a ratification, therefore I think it uſeleſs for either ſide to execute one. I alſo hope that a good peace will ſoon do away the neceſſity of ſuch acts, and as the Earl of Strafford is arrived at Utrecht, there is no reaſon to doubt we ſhall immediately ſee the effect of his declarations, made by order of the Queen.

According to your deſire, I ſend you copies of the renunciations made to the Crown of Spain by the Dukes of Berry and Orleans, the draughts were drawn at Madrid, and as they had been communicated to Lord Lexington, I ſuppoſed he had ſent them to her Britannic Majeſty. You will find the terms not leſs ſtrong than thoſe in the King of Spain's renunciation, and the ſame expreſſions uſed in the places where they were neceſſary.

The only act now remaining to be done, is the King's letters-patent to the Parliaments, to regiſter the King of Spain's renunciations. As it ſeems neceſſary to wait till the arrival of ſome perſon in behalf of the Queen of Great Britain, before theſe letters are expedited, I will alſo ſend you a copy of it, as ſoon as Mr. Prior arrives, if, as I believe, he precedes the Duke of Shrewſbury.

The Queen could not have ſelected an ambaſſador more diſtinguiſhed by his rank and perſonal qualities, and the nomination is ſo much more agreeable to the King, as his Majeſty knows he has a perfect knowledge of every thing that has occurred, during the courſe of the negociation, the final ſettlement of which I hope we ſhall ſoon ſee. I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 139.)

SIR,

Whitehall, December 13th, 1712.

THE Abbé Gaultier's meſſenger having brought me the act to prolong the ſuſpenſion of arms, it has been, by order of the Queen in council, and without loſs of time, publiſhed, according to our forms.

Matthew muſt now be with you; the Duke of Shrewſbury embarks to-morrow, and the Abbé Gaultier does himſelf the honour to write to you, upon two articles touched upon in one of your letters, and which require an explanation; ſo that I ſhould be very unreaſonable if I abuſed your patience by the length of this letter.

The Marquis de Montéleon fully anſwers the character you gave me of him; he ſeems diſpoſed to avoid delays, which, in the preſent caſe, would be dangerous. I hope in few days

to

to receive letters from the Queen's Commiſſary, ſent ſome time ago to explain with the Spaniſh Miniſters, certain articles reſpecting commerce; and I am perſuaded, that in two conferences with the Duke of Shrewſbury, you will remove all other obſtacles to the concluſion of the peace, which, thank God! are very few, and not of the laſt importance.

I did myſelf the honour to write to the Duke de St. Pierre, and I flatter myſelf you are convinced I will omit nothing, on my part, to advance his intereſt; it is ſufficient to know he is related to you, to ſecure my devotion to his ſervice.

I own, Sir, I am entirely of opinion with you, in regard to the Abbé Gaultier, who is very fortunate in having you for his patron.

Amid the joy which every honeſt man muſt feel at the approach of peace, I have the mortification to think, that I ſhall rarely have a pretence to write to you; yet do not forget me, Sir, but preſerve a portion of friendſhip for a man, who has the higheſt eſteem and friendſhip for you, and who will be all his life, &c.

B.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 140.)

SIR,

Whitehall, December 16th, O.S. 1712.

AS Baron de Walef perſiſts in his deſign of going to France, I could not excuſe myſelf writing to you this letter, to aſſure you he is an officer of diſtinguiſhed merit. I will add, he is much my friend, and I ſhould be rejoiced to learn he was fortunate enough to have you for his protector. I am, &c.

B.

Note. (Page 144.)

Monſieur de Torcy's Anſwer.

THE King will give the Duke of Loraine the places of which his Majeſty was put into poſſeſſion, for convenience, and for the ſecurity of the frontier of his kingdom, during the preſent war.

His Majeſty will execute thoſe conditions of the treaty of Ryſwick, which relate to that Prince.

He may preſent memorials to the King, by his Envoy here, or to his Majeſty's Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht.

Verſailles, December 28th, 1712.

The Duke of Loraine has repreſented to the Queen of Great Britain,

THAT he has a right to re-enter the diſtricts of Loraine, which France has, for her private convenience, occupied, on account of the war. Alſo,

To recover poſſeſſion of the places which ſhould be reſtored to him purſuant to the treaty of Ryſwic.

The particulars of the Duke of Loraine's pretenſions ought to be ſettled at the general conferences at Utrecht; her Majeſty of Great Britain expects, in the mean time, that the Plenipotentiaries of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, are provided with orders favourable to the juſt demands of this Prince, which ſhe has reaſon to hope from the equity and generoſity of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty.

PROPOSITION. (Page 147.)

THAT the iſland of Cape Breton ſhall remain to his Majeſty, with liberty to fortify it. That the province of Acadia, with all the rights and prerogatives enjoyed by the French, ſhall be ceded by his Majeſty to the Queen of Great Britain, together with the iſland of Newfoundland, and the adjacent iſlands. It being well underſtood, that the French ſhall have and preſerve the right of fiſhing, and of drying their fiſh, on the coaſt of the ſaid iſland of Newfoundland, from Cape Bonaviſta, proceeding northwards, to Point Rich.

That all the iſlands ſituated at the entrance of the river, and in the Gulph of St. Laurence, ſhall belong to the King.

Note.

Note. (Page 147.)

Anſwer to Mr. Prior's Memorial, received 29th December, 1712.

NATIONS in friendſhip are treated in France as to duties on merchandiſes imported, as the King's ſubjects; it is not ſo in England, whoſe ſubjects are treated differently from ſtrangers.

It is propoſed to treat the French in England, as the Engliſh are treated in France; this baſis is good, it ſuppoſes an equality neceſſary to reſtore a commerce, that has been interrupted between the two nations ſince 1667. But the conſequence does not anſwer the principle laid down: it is deſired that the Engliſh may enjoy in France, the tariff of 1664, that all prohibitions and decree, which have laid duties different to that tariff, be annulled; and for an advantage ſo great and ſo certain, endeavours ſhall be made to adjuſt affairs of commerce, as ſoon as the Parliament meets, ſo as the conditions be equal on both ſides. If this article were granted, the Engliſh have all they demanded, and yet we muſt wait for the diſcuſſion of the Parliament of England, which we have no reaſon to ſuppoſe is very favourable to the commerce of France.

The negociation commenced upon the baſis that we ſhould agree for all the productions, whether of nature or art, which conſtitute the trade reſpectively between France and England; and upon the duties they ſhould pay, upon being imported into either kingdom, as fairly as can be, as the welfare of the commerce of the two countries demands, which ſuppoſes a diſcuſſion in detail, carried on by ſtatements that have been made, and might be communicated, if England would do the ſame.

The ſuppreſſion of the duty of 50 per ton will create no difficulty at the ſame time as the duty of five ſhillings is ſuppreſſed in England.

Obſerve, Engliſh ſhips muſt not trade from port to port in this kingdom.

By article 13, in the project of the treaty of commerce, given in by the Engliſh Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, the ſame liberty was demanded for the ſale of tobacco; but, upon the obſervations made on that project, the Plenipotentiaries of England having given in a ſecond project, they altered the 11th article of this laſt, and it was agreed that in France,

Mr. Prior's Memorial, 21ſt December, 1712.

(1) IT is propoſed that the Engliſh, with reſpect to duties in France, ſhould be treated as *amiciſſima gens*, and that the French ſhould be treated in England in the ſame manner.

(2) For this purpoſe, all general prohibitions againſt the entry of merchandiſe ſhall be annulled on both ſides; and as the Engliſh, by this means, will enjoy the tariff of 1664 as the Dutch now do, we will endeavour to ſettle and regulate affairs of commerce as ſoon as the Parliament meets, ſo that the conditions be equal on both ſides.

(3) That the impoſt of 50 per ton, on Engliſh ſhips carrying merchandiſe to France, as alſo that of five ſhillings ſterling laid on French ſhips in England, be entirely taken off and aboliſhed on both ſides.

(4) As tobacco is farmed in France, and the Engliſh merchants cannot ſell it to other than the Commiſſaries appointed by the Farmers of tobacco, which does great injury to the Engliſh, entirely preventing all freedom of commerce in this reſpect, it is expected that the French will deviſe the means to ſoften this inequality in commerce.

with reſpect to tobacco, the Engliſh ſhould be treated in the ſame manner as the King's ſubjects, from which we ſuppoſed this difficulty removed.

This article is already granted.

The ſame thing had been demanded by the firſt project, article 17, but from the obſervations then made, it was not mentioned in the ſecond, therefore this difficulty was ſuppoſed to be at an end.

If another diſcuſſion is required, we may review the remarks on the firſt project, which are too long for inſertion in this memorial.

According to the tariff of 1664, packages, wrappers, caſes, &c. are deducted upon drugs and grocery only.

With regard to duties for merchandiſe waſted or ſpoiled, it is ſettled in a friendly manner, between the King's farmers and the merchants: there has never been any regulation with reſpect to this.

A general and cuſtomary article in commercial treaties.

(5) That the ſubjects of her Britannic Majeſty who are now ſettled, or may hereafter ſettle in France, ſhall be exempt from the right d'Aubaine, and be ſuffered to diſpoſe of their effects by will, gift, or otherwiſe.

(6) As it is uſual in England for French merchants who bring thither merchandiſe, after having made their report at the Cuſtom-houſe of the cargo in their veſſels, in caſe there are more bales or tons of merchandiſe than were reported, they are permitted to make a ſupplementary report, generally called a poſt-entry; it is required that Engliſh merchants carrying merchandiſe to France, do enjoy a like privilege.

(7) It is alſo required, that the drawback granted for merchandiſe ſpoiled, packages, &c. called tare, ſhould alſo be granted upon an equal foot by both parties.

(8) And in general, that the ſubjects of Great Britain and thoſe of France, may enjoy a reciprocal freedom with reſpect to trade, and that both parties do endeavour to open and facilitate it by the beſt means that can be uſed.

Note. (Page 151.)

Statement of the Wares and Productions of the Kingdom.

Almonds.
Anchovies.
Filberts.
Walnut-tree logs.
Ditto planks and tables.
Pitch.
Large capers.
Small ditto.
Cheſnuts.
Thiſtles.
Hungary-water.
Brandy.
Figs.
Galipots.
Oil of olives.
Jet.
Cork.
Honey.
Olives.
Crayons.
Goat-ſkins.
Stone in ſquares.
Mill-ſtones.
Plaſter-of-Paris.
Feathers for beds.
Pears.
Apples in ſorts.
Hair-powder.
Plums in ſorts.
Dried raiſins.
Roſin.
Saffron.
Soap.
Salt.
Wine, red & white.
Vinegar.

Statement

Statement of the Manufactures of France.

Cloth of fine wool, for women, of all colours.
Ditto ordinary.
Cloth of fine wool, for men, of all colours.
Ditto ordinary.
Buckrams.
Gold and ſilver buttons, fine wire, of the large ſort.
Ditto of the ſmall ſort.
Gold and ſilver buttons, wire-drawn on ſilk, ſorted half large and half ſmall.
Buttons of fine ſilver, or ſilver gilt, maſſive and plated on wood-moulds.
Buttons of the ſmall ſort.
Brocades, ground of gold and fine ſilver.
Brocades, upon damaſk taffety or ſatin, ornaments and flowers raiſed of fine ſilver.
Brocades, of gold and fine ſilver ground, glazed, without any flowers or ornaments of coloured ſilk.
Brocades, ſtrong, of pure ſilk ground, ſatin damaſk or taffetas, worked with coloured flowers, no gold or ſilver.
Brocades, ſmaller, of pure ſilk, ſatin damaſk or taffety ground, with flowers of different colours.
Serges, wide and narrow.
Playing cards.
Beaver hats.
Woollen hats of all ſorts.
White laces in ſorts, faſhion of Puy d'Auvergne and Normandy, and other provinces.
Druggets ſhorn, eſtamines, ras de maroc de barrière de caſtor, Mount Cayards and Dauphiny, of wool only, and mixed with ſilk.
Druggets and pluſhes, of gold or fine ſilk thread, of hemp, of flax, and of all colours.
Fine gold thread.
Ditto ſilver.
Galoons, fringes, and laces of ſham gold, threaded on ſilk.
Ditto of ſham ſilver.
Simple gauzes, plain or ſtriped.
Ditto with flowers, worked with ſilk or wool.
Damaſſien gauzes.
Jet, in different pieces of work.
French glaſſes, Venice pattern.

Small Wares.

Bridles, buckles and buttons, of copper or metal, plain and worked, gilt or not gilt; buttons of ſilk, or ſilk and hair, or hair only; curry-combs; ſtirrups; leather gloves of all ſorts, for man or woman, plain or ornamented, of leather or taffety; pins; needles; *étuis* for the pocket; patch and ſnuff boxes, of ivory, horn, or wood, plain, engraved, carved, or ornamented with gold or ſilk; ſwords, mounted, with guard and handle of any metal; ſpectacles of all ſorts; whips; works of copper, engraved or emboſſed, gilt or not gilt; combs, of ſhell, ivory, horn, or wood; ſteel works, poliſhed or gilt, and all ſorts of other ſmall pieces of workmanſhip for the pocket.
Mohair of gold and ſilver.
Ditto of ſilk.
Gold and fine ſilver, threaded on ſilk, of all qualities.
Paper.
Perukes, white, cheſnut, and black.
Cutlery, fine, as knives, ſciſſars, razors, ſurgeons' and watchmakers' inſtruments, and other works.

Silk

Silk ribbons, with flowers or ſtripes of gold and ſilver, from the narroweſt to the breadth of four inches.

Ribbons, wove with gold or fine ſilver, from the breadth of one inch to four.

Serges of Niſmes and Uſez.

Taffetas, plain, ſtriped, clouded, ſhot, changing to all colours.

Tapeſtry, Bergame, or druggets of Rouen, of thread, wool, or ſilk.

Linens, white, fine, and ſtrong, from Normandy and Laval.

Linens, common, of Normandy; cloths of thread and cotton, in ſquares; royal cloths for ſails.

Cloths, white, called quintens, or narrow bretagnes.

Cloths, white, of Morlaix, called narrow ecrues.

Ditto ditto wide ditto.

Cloths, white, worked for napkins; ſlight cloths *de cholet*.

Unbleached hempen cloths, of one-third, three-fourths, one-half, and ell wide, one with the other.

Cambrics.

Glaſſes, and all ſorts of glaſs-work, except glaſſes of the Venice faſhion.

Note. (Page 155.)

(9) *Copy of the Duke of Loraine's letter.*

December 16th, 1712.

I AM very ſorry, Sir, that your illneſs prevents my ſeeing you, but I hope in a little time you will be well. Sautez yeſterday gave me an account of what you ſaid to him concerning the buſineſs I had entruſted to him; and, that you may give a ſtill better account, I ſend you the incloſed ſhort memorial; by the bad manner in which it is drawn up, you know it to be my ſtyle. I hope the King will find I had reaſon to do as I did, unleſs I had entangled myſelf in an aukward buſineſs; on that account, I beg you to recollect you told me, Sir, the King wiſhed that affair ſhould be managed by the general conſent of the allies, for the greater ſecurity; that the ſteps taken by me at the Court of Vienna were only *officium boni viri*, and therefore it was not juſt to implicate me in the diſcuſſion. I flatter myſelf the King will aſſent to my reaſons, and will be convinced that my application was ſolely to pleaſe his Majeſty, and to make known my reſpectful attachment to him. I ſhould be miſerable, Sir, if I were miſtaken, or I ſhould give offence, when it was out of my power to act otherwiſe. I am, &c.

(10) M. D'AUDIFRET will recollect, that when he came here from the King his maſter, to ſignify to me his Majeſty's wiſhes, that I ſhould exert my good offices with the allies, to procure the neceſſary ſecurity within my dominions for the Chevalier St. George, againſt the incurſions of the troops of the ſame allies, I told him, at that time, I thought, that as, by my advice, the Queen of Great Britain had already granted her paſſport to the ſaid Chevalier, he had only to demand one of the Emperor and of the Dutch; and I added, it was proper to begin by aſking one of the Emperor, becauſe I was perſuaded, that if he granted it, the Dutch would be leſs difficult, and propoſing firſt to Holland an affair of ſuch conſequence, which muſt paſs through the reſolutions of all the provinces, would be productive of delay, and probably great difficulty.

Monſieur d'Audifret appeared to approve of my plan, and I loſt not a moment in writing to my Envoy at Vienna, whoſe illneſs has prevented my having an anſwer ſooner.

Upon my application, the Emperor ſent me a copy of the paſs he intended to give, with a letter, of which I ſubjoin the tranſlation; in both theſe Monſieur d'Audifret will find paſſages under-marked, to which I beg his attention when he gives an account to the Court.

(11) *Tranſlation of the Emperor's letter to his Royal Highneſs.*

YOUR Reſident, Valentini, has, on your part, humbly requeſted, that the neceſſary orders may be given, to the end that the perſon called the Chevalier St. George, who is to remove to your dominions, may remain there ſecure from my troops and thoſe of the allies; and though I am happy to ſhow, on all occaſions, my readineſs to grant your requeſts, and though I know full well the reaſons why you could not refuſe the intimation given you upon this affair, and though I myſelf lament the unfortunate ſituation of the Chevalier, yet from circumſtances worthy of reflection, and which may be eaſily imagined, it is difficult to grant him the paſſport required in its full extent; therefore I can only give it conditionally, *that you take great care that a proper uſe be made of it, without prejudice to the common cauſe; failing in which, you will be reſponſable to me, to the empire, and to the reſt of the allies.*

Upon peruſal of the draught of the paſſport and of the letter, I hope, from the account Monſieur d'Audifret will give, the King will be convinced of the care I have taken to ſucceed in what his Majeſty deſired of me; will obſerve my inclination to pleaſe his Majeſty, not only on this occaſion, but in all others that have occurred, and may occur in future; but the two marked paſſages in the paſs, and in the Emperor's letter, have obliged me, and I loſt no time, to remonſtrate to his Imperial Majeſty, that I and my dominions being neutral, I could not be clogged with ſuch conditions; that I looked upon them as terms of the Chancery; that I hoped the Emperor would grant me the favour, without theſe reſtrictions, which I could by no means admit. I expect an anſwer in eight or ten days at lateſt, unleſs the relapſe of my Envoy retards it; and as ſoon as it comes to hand, Monſieur d'Audifret ſhall be informed of it.

I hope the King will find that I have acted properly upon this occaſion, and that being, as I ſaid, neutral, I could not in any ſhape take ſuch engagements upon me: I flatter myſelf that in this juncture, as in all others, his Majeſty will ſee that my ſole attention is to ſhow my attachment to him, and my very ſincere wiſhes to give him pleaſure in every thing dependent upon me.

If, during this interval, it ſhould be thought proper for me to ſtir on the ſide of Holland, I will do it with pleaſure; and if Monſieur d'Audifret wiſhes to ſtop for orders from Court, I will not proceed till they arrive; but if he thinks I can, in the mean time, make ſome progreſs, he has only to inform me, and I ſhall always be ready to execute what he may adviſe upon this ſubject.

Note. (Page 161.)

(4) *Article propoſed about the tarif of* 1664, *received from Monſieur de Torcy, 7th January*, 1713.

THE articles, reſpecting the liberty, which the ſubjects of both nations ſhall have, and ought to have, to trade, &c. ſhall be expreſſed in general terms; and if, in the diſcuſſion of them, any exception is made, it ſhall be ſettled, without loſs of time, either with the Duke of Shrewſbury, Mr. Prior, or, at Utrecht, with the Plenipotentiaries of France and Great Britain.

Whenever an act of the Britiſh Parliament is paſſed, to reduce the duties on wares of the growth and manufacture of France, to the ſame proportion as thoſe laid in France upon the wares of the growth and manufacture of Great Britain, according to the tariff of 1664, the ſubjects of Great Britain ſhall then enjoy the ſaid tariff in France.

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MEMORIAL FOR MR. PRIOR.

BY article 4, in the plan of the treaty of peace with Great Britain, ſent to Utrecht in the month of Auguſt laſt, it is ſaid, *Ille qui Regis Magnæ Britanniæ titulum aſſumpſit, &c.*

At preſent the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain wiſh to alter that expreſſion, which they agreed to, and to ſubſtitute the following terms, *qui Regis Magnæ Britannia nomen uſurpavit*, or *ſibi arrogavit*, terms which add no force to the engagement the King takes upon himſelf by this article, in regard to the ſucceſſion, as ſettled by Parliament.

Upon article 8, it has always been obſerved, that it is neceſſary to diſtinguiſh two different kinds of ſluices at Dunkirk—one ſerving to cleanſe the harbour, the other to give vent to the waters which otherwiſe would drown the country.

There is no difficulty about deſtroying the firſt, as being part of the fortifications; but as to the others, the deſtruction of them would be the ruin of the ſurrounding country, without producing any advantage to England: Lord Bolingbroke informed himſelf of the truth of this, in paſſing through Dunkirk, on his return to London; and on his report to the Queen of Great Britain, we doubt not the difficulty, in this article, is already removed.

The 9th article of the plan imports, that the King ſhall give up to the Queen of Great Britain, Hudſon's Bay, &c. in the manner they are now poſſeſſed by the King and the French.

The Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain inſiſt that it ſhall be expreſſed, that France ſhall *reſtore, not only what has been taken from the Engliſh*, but, alſo *all that England has ever poſſeſſed in that quarter*. This new clauſe differs from the plan, and would be a ſource of perpetual difficulties; but to avoid them, the King has ſent to his Plenipotentiaries the ſame map of North America, as had been furniſhed by the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain. His Majeſty has cauſed to be drawn upon this map, a line which deſcribes the boundaries, in ſuch a manner as he has reaſon to believe they may eaſily agree this point on both ſides.

If, however, there ſhould be any obſtacle which the Plenipotentiaries cannot remove, the deciſion muſt be referred to Commiſſaries, to be named for the adjuſtment of the boundaries in America. The ſame article ſays, that the King's ſubjects ſhall be at liberty to depart from their lands, in places ceded by his Majeſty to the Crown of Great Britain, to carry with them their goods and moveables, and to go wherever they pleaſe, by ſea or by land. The Plenipotentiaries of France have alſo reſerved to them, the right of diſpoſing of their immoveable effects in the ſpace of three years.

The Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain diſpute the term of three years, and wiſh to confine it to one. They alſo pretend to make a diſtinction between places ceded and places which they call reſtored. They agree to let the French have the term of one year, to diſpoſe of their immovables in places ceded, but they contend they ought not to have the ſame liberty in places reſtored. Under the name of places ceded, they include Acadia, and the iſland of St. Chriſtopher. Under the name of places reſtored, Hudſon's Bay and Strait, and the Iſland of Newfoundland. To remove this difficulty, the term may be fixed to two years, or eighteen months, and the French, eſtabliſhed there, may have an equal liberty of diſpoſing of their immoveables within that term, as well in places yielded, as in places reſtored.

Upon article 10, the Plenipotentiaries of France demand, that the Engliſh, obtaining the right to prefer their complaints of loſs ſuſtained in Hudſon's Bay before the Commiſſaries, the King's ſubjects ſhould have the ſame right with regard to the buſineſs at Nevis and Gambia.

This mutuality, which the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain have not yet been willing to grant, ſeems juſt: the Engliſh ſhall have the ſame liberty to repreſent their loſſes laſt year at Montſerrat, and to ſolicit a reparation, which ſhall be granted to them.

Article 11 of the plan imported, that the French could not, in future, fiſh upon the coaſts of Acadia, and the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain wiſh now to extend this prohibition. They contend that the French ſhould not fiſh within 30 leagues to the ſouth-eaſt of that province, and ten leagues to the north-weſt. If this pretenſion were admitted, the French could not fiſh even in the gulph of St. Lawrence. The propoſal communicated to Mr. Prior, will do away this difficulty, as it is there remarked that Acadia is ceded, with all the rights and prerogatives which the French enjoyed. It were uſeleſs to enter into a more particular diſcuſſion.

Upon article 12, the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain have propoſed to limit the time of fiſhery for the French, from the beginning of April, to the 20th of September; but as this new reſtriction is impracticable, contrary to general cuſtom and the good underſtanding we wiſh to eſtabliſh between the two nations, we are perſuaded the Queen of Great Britain will diſapprove of it.

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From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 167.)

Verſailles, December 29th, 1712.

UNDER the outward ſemblance of Matthew, you have ſent us, my Lord, the legitimate ſon of M. Buys; nothing is wanting but for him to fill his glaſs like his father. He is otherwiſe as much a Dutchman, and I think much more obſtinate. We have been forced to yield and conform to his wiſhes; ſtill he was not contented; but I hope you will, and that all the obſtacles that retarded the ſigning of the peace, are about to be removed; I muſt own I expect bitter reproaches from the King's Plenipotentiaries, who ſtrongly diſputed with yours, thoſe articles which Matthew has gained without much trouble, and perhaps with leſs reaſon. In one word, I believe you will be more pleaſed with his Excellency than I am, and I hope the Duke of Shrewſbury, whom I expect every moment, will find affairs far advanced. I doubt not they are alſo in a forward ſtate at Utrecht, and your allies become more reaſonable.

I muſt now leave the Duke d'Aumont to talk with you on theſe ſubjects; but I beg you, my Lord, not to give me a diſmiſſal, I aſſure you, that whenever I am reduced to write to you only letters of compliment, I ſhould like better to importune you with even them, than to think you have forgotten me.

Before I recur to this laſt reſource, you give me, my Lord, freſh occaſion to thank you for the good offices you ſtill continue to the Duke of St. Pierre. There is certainly no perſon to whom I like to be under obligation ſo much as to you; my ſatisfaction will be complete, if ever I find the means of proving to you, how much I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

Matthew told me, he was diſpatching a meſſenger for England, ſo you will hear from him in what ſtate we have arranged the reſt of the difficulties which retarded the concluſion of the treaty.

In the name of God, Sir, order your Plenipotentiaries to be leſs excellent grammarians. Ours, who alſo underſtand the force of Latin expreſſions, are out of patience when they ſee difficulties, which have been long adjuſted, ſtarted again, and the difference between ceſſion and reſtitution, and the meaning of thoſe terms. In truth, Sir, ſuch queſtions ought not to be the amuſement of honourable men. They are, at beſt, excuſable only with thoſe to whom we may apply *amantium iræ*. Finiſh theſe diſputes, which, if they continue longer, will only profit our enemies.

You let the Duke d'Aumont tire himſelf at Boulogne; ſince his arrival there, his impatience to proceed to England is, I am perſuaded, much increaſed; I ſhould be the ſame, were I in his place, that I might aſſure you, I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

To Madame de Feriole. (Page 175.)

Whitehall, January 7th, O.S. 1712.

IN truth, Madam, your letters make me bluſh, and inſtead of being obliged to me for the little ſervices I have been able to do the Abbé de Tencin, I am unhappy at not being able to make a better return for your goodneſs towards me. Pleaſe to preſerve me a place in your remembrance, rely upon it, that by the goodneſs of my heart, I will try to ſupply the defects in my underſtanding, and that, deſpairing of ſucceſs on the ſcore of affection, I will exert myſelf to gain upon that of eſteem.

I am, Madam, and ſhall ever be, with infinite reſpect,

B.

To

To the Marchioneſs de Croiſſy. (Page 176.)

Whitehall, January 7th, O.S. 1712.

I DECLARE, Madam, I bluſh with ſhame, when I think of the trouble you have taken to procure me the two prettieſt toys I ever ſaw. The workman was wrong when he ſuppoſed a ſnuff-box of wood did not ſuit my taſte. When the inſide is valuable, nothing charms me more than a ſimplicity in the outſide, and I know many people who would make a much better appearance in the world, if they bore a cloſer reſemblance to my ſnuff-box.

Madam, I muſt not to trouble you unneceſſarily, it is time for me to conclude my letter, begging you to believe that I am, &c.

B.

I take the liberty to ſend you honey water, Barbadoes water, and Spaniſh wine, which I hope will anſwer better than the cyder.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 178.)

SIR,

Whitehall, January 7th, O.S. 1712-13.

THE Duke d'Aumont's meſſenger muſt not depart without a line from me. I have too long enjoyed the ſweets of your correſpondence ever to conſent to be deprived of it; and of all the advantages which God, or nature, or fortune, have conferred on the Duke of Shrewſbury, I envy him nothing more than his ſituation, which enables him to ſee you every day, and to enjoy your converſation every moment.

I hope, Sir, the diſputes between the Plenipotentiaries are now, at leaſt, finiſhed, as it appears by my letters from Utrecht, that they began to approximate on the article of the treaty of commerce, which was the principal ſubject of their differences, and, perhaps, has never been too well underſtood on either ſide.

There are certain things which derive their conſequence purely from being diſputed; the difference between the expreſſions *cedendis* and *reſtituendis*, between *aſſumpſit* and *uſurpavit*, or *arrogavit*, is not very eſſential: the mind was, however, not a little heated in the diſpute, and it required ſome trouble to convince certain people that the matter was not worthy of attention.

Since I knew the Duke of Shrewſbury had landed in France, my mind has been eaſy; in the name of God, finiſh with him, and when you have ſo done, write a joint-letter to the Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht. I imagine the points we had to diſcuſs with the Court of Spain were concluded through her Majeſty's condeſcenſion. Thus, Sir, the Queen may open the Seſſion by ſtating the negociation with France and Spain to be concluded.

I do not know if there are ſtill not ſome among the Dutch Miniſters, who flatter themſelves they have it ſtill in their power to perplex affairs by the intrigues they continue to carry on with the faction in our two Houſes. I own I am not afraid of them, and I build my confidence, not only on the firmneſs exhibited here, but on the integrity and moderation experienced on your ſide.

It is time to conclude both the negociation and my letter, aſſuring you, Iam, &c.

B.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 199.)

Marli, January 18th, 1713, N.S.

FINISH, my Lord, all remaining difficulties; it really is time for us to re-eſtabliſh a friendly intercourſe, ſince both ſides deſire it, and their intentions are equally good.

I will not tire you with the account of diſputes relating to the Newfoundland fiſhery, I leave that to the Duke d'Aumont and the Duke of Shrewſbury, I will only ſay, and that frankly, that the propoſition which Matthew ſends you is, according to the language of the Germans and the Dutch, our ultimatum.

Finiſh our quarrels; let us think of nothing but friendſhip; however ſtrict it may be

between our nations, you will be indebted to yourſelf alone for that which all who have the honour to know you, retain for you.

I think, however, I have ſome merit to be diſtinguiſhed among them, as no one is, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 200.)

Whitehall, January 20th, O.S. 1712-13.

I proteſt to you, Sir, that if we do not finiſh, it is not my fault. I wiſh, for a thouſand reaſons, a ſpeedy concluſion to the great work of the peace; but the principal is, becauſe I ſee here the public mind is beginning to be weary of the ſuſpenſe.

Our diſputes about Newfoundland will not be the ſtumbling-block, provided you do not refuſe us any longer, in the treaty of commerce, the conſequences of a principle which we have, for many months, looked upon as ſettled, and then the peace will indiſputably be ſoon made.

It is of no uſe to enter into the detail of the buſineſs, which has been terribly perplexed at Utrecht. The Duke of Shrewſbury will inform you of the laſt offers the Queen orders him to make, to accommodate theſe differences; and the reaſons upon which we ground them, which are certainly too ſubſtantial not to have weight with a mind ſo well diſpoſed, and a heart ſo rightly placed as yours.

In the name of God, Sir, ſend back this meſſenger, without loſs of time, with the King's conſent to the propoſitions, which the Duke of Shrewſbury will have the honour to make to him, on the Queen's part. You will then enable us to triumph over thoſe who are as much your enemies as ours. In that caſe, the Queen will addreſs the two houſes, whoſe ſitting cannot be prorogued longer than the third of next month, and inform them, that the intereſts of Great Britain and France are entirely ſettled, that ſhe is going to ſign her treaty, that ſhe has invited all her allies to do the ſame, and that ſhe has declared to them her firm reſolve to keep the negociation no longer open.

Agree with me, Sir, that the echo of this ſpeech, and the addreſſes of the Parliament will be heard at Utrecht, and will inſpire the moſt inveterate warrior with the love of peace. You will finiſh, with ſpeed, what affairs remain to be adjuſted, and you will finiſh them to the King's ſatisfaction.

But if, at the meeting of Parliament, our negociation be ſtill open, I will not, Sir, in truth, be anſwerable for the conſequences.

The evil-minded will have a fair game before them; and what I conſider as the height of misfortune, thoſe who mean well, perhaps, will find themſelves neceſſitated to follow the opinions of others.

The Earl of Oxford and your ſervant have, in that caſe, the proſpect of paſſing their time badly enough; but I trouble myſelf leſs about that, than with the diſorder I foreſee in affairs in general.

You ſee, Sir, the pleaſure I feel in writing to you hurries me on.

I will flatter myſelf, that the importance of the criſis in which we are, will be an excuſe for the length of my letter, and that you will not think ill of that frankneſs, with which I naturally expoſe to you my fears and my hopes. I am, &c.

B.

To the Princeſs Urſini. (Page 211).

MADAM,

Whitehall, January 25th, O.S. 1712-13.

YOUR Highneſs may judge how much I am influenced by the Marquis de Monteléon, by his inſpiring me with the aſſurance to write to you. I know how much I may depend upon the friendſhip that Miniſter has ſhown me; but, indeed, Madam, he never has, and never can do me a favour equal to that he has lately honoured me with, by furniſhing me with

with an excuſe for writing to your Highneſs, and making known the ſentiments of a heart perfectly devoted to your ſervice.

Though the humble ſervant of Lord Lexington, I cannot help envying him the happineſs of making his court, under the patronage of your Highneſs, to that great Queen, whoſe heroic virtues are the admiration of the preſent age, and will be that of poſterity.

As the Earl of Oxford does himſelf the honour to write to your Highneſs, it will be of no uſe for me to enter upon an account, relating to the intereſt of the two Courts. I flatter myſelf, the Marquis de Monteleon has, during the negociation, experienced every accommodation in my power, and I venture to aſſure your Highneſs, he will always find the ſame.

I did not omit ſending ſuch inſtructions to the Queen's Plenipotentiaries, as were judged moſt proper to ſecure for your Highneſs, by the treaty of peace, the principality which his Catholic Majeſty has granted you; and I make no doubt, the attention paid by thoſe Miniſters will be completely ſucceſsful. Your Highneſs may be certain I ſhall neglect nothing that can evince the profound reſpect and inviolable attachment with which I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

Note. (Page 218).

AS with a view to facilitate the opening and exerciſe of trade mutually between France and Great Britain, the two following articles were agreed upon:

Firſt, That, in caſe we ſhould not agree upon the points in diſpute, relating to commerce, Commiſſioners ſhall be named on both ſides, to meet in London, to examine and regulate the duties and impoſts to be paid in each kingdom, and to adjuſt them in ſuch a manner as to encourage and increaſe the trade between the two kingdoms:

Secondly, That no privilege or advantage, with reſpect to the trade with France, ſhall be granted to any foreign nation, which ſhall not, at the ſame time, be granted to the ſubjects of the Queen of Great Britain: in like manner, no privilege or advantage, with reſpect to the trade with Great Britain, ſhall be granted to any foreign nation, which ſhall not, at the ſame time, be granted to the ſubjects of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty:

In compliance with the above articles, Commiſſaries ſhall be named, to meet in London, to examine the duties and impoſts which ſhould be paid in each kingdom, and regulate them fairly between the two nations, conformable to what the moſt favoured foreign nation ſhall pay, both in France and Great Britain; ſo that the Commiſſaries having agreed (which ſhould be in months) the King will publiſh, in the kingdom, and in his other dominions, the neceſſary decrees for the execution of what the Commiſſaries have agreed upon, and will remove every impediment to the trade of the Queen of Great Britain's ſubjects, in France: ſo likewiſe, on the part of her Britannic Majeſty, all acts of parliament ſhall be repealed which prevented the French being treated, in Great Britain, and her other dominions, as the moſt favoured foreign nation.

Note. (Page 219).

The French at Utrecht.

January 20th, 1713.

AT all times, foreign manufactures were never admitted into France, otherwiſe than at ports particularly reſerved for them, where they were ſearched, in the ſame manner as the produce of the kingdom. Thoſe of England were imported by Normandy, Britanny, and Guienne; and if any were found bad, they were confiſcated.

The confiſcation was repealed in 1606, by the treaty of Paris, February 14, and it was ſtipulated, that bad wares ſhould be ſent back, without export duty. This arrangment was confirmed in 1655, by the treaty of Weſtminſter, and, ſince that time, we have continued to reſtrict the import of foreign merchandiſe to places ſpecified, and the ſearching of them has been

been conſtantly practiſed. Theſe are the primary laws of the kingdom, and cannot be repealed.

The Engliſh cannot be ſuffered to trade from port to port in France, but upon condition that the French have the like privilege in England: without this reciprocity, it cannot be granted to the Engliſh in France, nor can they aſk it: for the ſame reaſon, the five ſhillings muſt be reduced to one-half, becauſe this would be nearly the value of fifty ſols, in France.

It is true, by the treaty of Ryſwick, the French granted this favour to the Dutch, without ſtipulating any mutuality for the French, in Holland; but it was ſolely becauſe the trade of Holland being carried on by canals, cannot be managed by ſea from port to port; which differs much from the veſſels of Great Britain: beſides, the Dutch have always paid the duty in queſtion, upon the whole tonnage of the veſſel, without attending to the cargo.

With regard to the abolition of this duty, upon veſſels arriving from England, or other parts of the world, at the ports of France, we conſent to it; but upon condition, that it do not take place in France, before it takes place in England.

As to Poſt Entries, &c.

THOSE who have abſolutely entered the merchandiſe they import, cannot afterwards either increaſe or leſſen it, upon pretence of omiſſion, or otherwiſe; and the truth, or the falſehood of the entry is judged of from the firſt entry.

To this French merchants are ſubject: the Engliſh cannot, in this, be treated otherwiſe than his Majeſty's own ſubjects. Innocence, it is true, ſhould be favoured; but it is not leſs true, that fraud ſhould be prevented.

The Article for appointing Conſuls.

WE can find in no treaty between France and England, the appointment of Conſuls, as propoſed; we believe it would be prejudicial to the commerce of the two nations; for, commonly, the Conſuls of the merchants ſecure to themſelves the moſt profitable ventures, to the excluſion of their countrymen, notwithſtanding they are prohibited. And beſides, the appointments of theſe public characters are a charge upon trade, which ought to be avoided. So that, inſtead of Conſuls, both parties might ſend a Commercial Reſident, to Paris, and to London, to receive the complaints of grievances that each nation may labour under, and to repair them by a repreſentation to the Miniſters of the two Crowns, and by obtaining proper orders.

Concerning Tare on Goods imported into France.

THE King's ſubjects, and all foreigners are bound to pay import duties on merchandiſe, without deduction for the weight of caſes, boxes, wrappers, or barrels, except ſilks, and groceries. In this reſpect, we can neither make a new order, nor grant what is demanded; and the Engliſh ſhall be treated the ſame as the French.

As to what concerns the Tobacco-farm, in France.

THE Engliſh ſhall be permitted to ſell their tobacco to the farmer, the ſame as the French merchants do. In this reſpect, in France, we cannot depart from the eſtabliſhed cuſtom.

Note. (Page 228).

Verſailles, February 7th, 1713.

TO remove the difficulty, with reſpect to the laſt words of the article, intitled, *in locum*, 9 & 10 *art. Tractatus de Commercio*, as if, putting the caſe, that the Commiſſaries do not agree

agree at the end of the time preſcribed, we could in conſequence make new demands, I underſtand the Queen does not pretend, by virtue of this article, to obtain any other advantage from the tarif of 1664, than thoſe which are granted by France to the Dutch, by the approaching peace; and that the Duc d'Aumont has a right, if he judges it neceſſary, to demand a like explanation at London.

SHREWSBURY.

Note. (Page 243).

Extract from the Examinations of the Chevalier Aſſurini.

AS ſoon as the Chevalier Aſſurini was ſent to the Baſtille, the Marquis de Torcy inſtructed M. d'Argenſon, by a private memorial, only for his own uſe, in every thing that related to this priſoner, his conduct in his journey to Holland, what he had advanced to the enemy's Miniſters, and the promiſes they had made him, that he might queſtion him upon all the points in the memorial.

The firſt examination he underwent was on the 7th September, 1712. He gave him an hiſtorical account of his birth, his education, ſome journeys to Italy, one to Paris, where he remained a year. It appears, he went away in 1708, to return home.

He ſuppoſes, that his father may have received, a ſhort time after, inſtructions to go to England, on the King's buſineſs, and he obſerves, that he ſet out with him to go there; that his father, upon his arrival, gave eight or ten pounds to the Spaniſh Secretary of Count Gallas, to draw from him his maſter's ſecrets, to ſend them to the Marquis de Torcy. That he alſo made large preſents to Monſieur de Netterville, whom he calls the confident of the Earl of Oxford, to the Chevalier Penn, and to Mr. Plunket; but did not know what thoſe preſents conſiſted of. That Monſieur Netterville informed his father of every thing, knowing him to have the King's orders. That the Chevalier Giraldi, who was reported to be a partizan of France, was far otherwiſe, and that they had diſcovered, by the ſecretary of Count Gallas, that he was penſioned by the Archduke, and attached to the Whigs. That Monſieur Grimani was at heart a Frenchman. That to create a quarrel between the Chevalier Giraldi and Count Gallas, they inſinuated to the latter, by means of Monſieur Primoli, his firſt ſecretary, that the former betrayed his party. That Aſſurini, the father, entered into a falſe confidence with Count Gallas, to embroil him with the government of England.

The Chevalier Aſſurini ſays, at that time, he obtained an intimacy with the Ducheſs of Shrewſbury, Miſs Malloſte, my Lady Waldegrave, the Ducheſs of Buckingham, my Lady Butler, my Lady Hoglitorit, and many other ladies of quality, to report to him what was there ſaid. That he had great hopes of marrying a daughter of my Lord Suſſex. That he had waited for a favourable opportunity to go to England, to conclude this match, but that all his hopes vaniſhed upon his impriſonment. That he learned from Monſieur Primoli, that a falſe Tory, who lives in St. James's Park, in a houſe ſurrounded with iron rails, had told Count Gallas, that his father and he were ſent by the Court of France, and that Count reported it my Lord Oxford. That Count Gallas having propoſed to him to reveal his father's ſecrets, he pretended to conſent, gave him an Italian cypher, which he had ſtill by him, but that his deſign was to ſay nothing but what ſhould ſuit the King's intereſt. That after nine months' ſtay in England, they were forced to depart, by an order from Court, and, returning to France, they continued there, until his father having ſet off for Italy, he, for his part, went to Holland; and that they received, at Paris, about 6000 livres, in bills of exchange, upon Italy. That in September, 1711, while in London, Count Gallas made him a preſent of a ring, which he ſold, *a few days after*, for 3400 livres.

Second Examination, September 20, 1712.

MONSIEUR Aſſurini, on his ſecond examination, ſays, that his father and he received, at Paris, only 1400 livres, in Italian bills of exchange; and that he had received,

for himſelf, 3400 livres, ariſing from the value of the ring he had left in England; and that his father had ſold at Paris the remainder of his plate, and for ſome jewels, which he had ſold in London, he received 1500 guineas. To the queſtions put to him reſpecting his journey to Holland, and his proceedings there, he anſwered, that being the ſubject of a neutral Prince, he thought himſelf at liberty: that the Marquis de Torcy having ordered him to get ready to go to Utrecht, to introduce Mr. Plunket there, and had afterwards altered his plan, he had been ſo much vexed becauſe he was not employed, and becauſe the Abbé Gaultier was preferred to him, that he reſolved to ſeek his fortune; that he repaired to Utrecht, intending to go from thence to England, as he had written to my Lords Oxford, Buckingham, and Bolingbroke, and to the Chevalier Penn; that on his arrival at Utrecht, he only ſaw M. Meſnager, who gave him a cold reception, and having called upon M. Primoli, known as the Archduke's emiſſary, he propoſed to him to ſerve that Prince, and to leave the King's ſervice, in which he ſeemed diſcontented; that he promiſed him great advantages, among others, a public character, and a penſion in the Mantuan, repreſenting to him that that Prince, as maſter of Italy, could do his family either much good or much harm; that he might even give him ſomething at Naples or Milan. That he agreed to go with him to the Hague, and that M. Primoli introduced him to Count Sinzendorf, who received him in a favourable manner, and returned his viſit; that he dined that day with that miniſter, and Penſionary Heinſius coming in, they all three had a conference. The Count repeated to him what M. Primoli had told him, the advantages he might gain in the ſervice of the Archduke, and what he had to fear by joining with the oppoſite party: Penſionary Heinſius made the ſame obſervations; that he gave no poſitive anſwer to theſe propoſals, and required that his father ſhould not be informed of them, becauſe he was attached to France; that he continued five or ſix days at the Hague, without farther conference with theſe miniſters; that he returned to Utrecht, where he ſaw all the foreign miniſters, except his Majeſty's; and returning to the Hague, had a ſecond conference with the ſame perſons; that they repeated what had been ſaid at the firſt interview; that he remained at the Hague eight or ten days, and being in want of money, M. Primoli lent him 150 florins, and M. de la Martiniere 23 Louis-d'ors. That upon his return to Utrecht, he ſaw M. Meſnager, who received him favourably, and preſented him to the Marquis d'Huxelles and to the Abbé Polignac, who invited him to their table, and propoſed to him to go upon the King's ſervice to England, which offer he accepted; that he agreed to go and receive his inſtructions at Court, and that they gave him 21 piſtoles to aſſiſt him on his journey.

Third Examination, September 21, 1712.

HE gives an account of his journey, and aſſures us he had received no letters ſince his arrival at Paris; that he had not informed Count Sinzendorf, or Penſionary Heinſius, or M. Primoli, of his departure; that, in order to ſhow Count Sinzendorf he was not in want of money, he produced ſeveral counterfeit bills of exchange; that from Utrecht he wrote to Count Gallas, and told him, that he was intimately connected with two of the Marquis de Torcy's ſecretaries, who would reveal to him the ſecrets of France, and that he ſhould be able to communicate them to him; that his only object in this ſcheme was to deceive that miniſter, and the better to recommend himſelf, his information being abſolutely the work of his own imagination; that he had not ſpoken on the ſubject to Count Sinzendorf, nor to the Penſionary; that Count Gallas had replied in general terms; and had not explained himſelf with reſpect to the recompence he was to have, but that while he was in England, he promiſed him a barony in the Mantuan, which he ſuppoſes to be that of St. Archange, confiſcated on de Bague; that he informed Count Gallas of the deſign to ſend him from Paris to Utrecht, and the change that had taken place in that reſpect. In his luggage were found ſeveral packets, labeled "doſe of the Count de Palma's powder," and he ſays this is a purgative powder; there are alſo ſome other powders, which have not been tried, among others the powder of ſympathy. He aſſures us, he never gave a memorial to Count Sinzendorf, nor to the Dutch miniſter, that he only wrote to the former from Utrecht to thank him for the

 aſſurance

aſſurance of his eſteem, and to ſignify to him he ſhould be well ſatisfied with his conduct if he were engaged in the ſervice of the Archduke; that he had reſiſted Count Gallas's importunities to declare openly for the Archduke in Italy and at Rome; that he had only ſpoken of the King's affairs, in general terms, with Count Sinzendorf and the Penſionary, telling them they were in a ruined ſtate, on account of the want of agreement among his Majeſty's miniſters, and that in ſo ſaying, he had his own perſonal intereſt in view; that the two conferences he had with them had only laſted a quarter of an hour each. That at laſt, diſguſt at not being employed, and receiving neither reward nor penſion, though his father had made over to him his right to all the rewards which he thought he had merited, had determined him to proceed as he had done; that at the time of theſe two conferences, he did not know their intention to propoſe to him to return to England in the King's ſervice, and that he has never imparted any thing confidentially to thoſe miniſters ſince the overtures made to him by his Majeſty's miniſters.

Account of what has been written with reſpect to M. Aſſurini, and of his Letters from his Priſon.

February 5th, 1713.

COUNT Aſſurini left Paris in the month of May, 1712, on his return to Italy, and after paſſing ſome time at Faenza, he repaired to Rome, in the Auguſt following. As he had no buſineſs in that city, and his expences there would certainly exceed his means, it was matter of ſurpriſe to find him continuing there ſo long, and from that time he began to be ſuſpected. His ſon's treachery was known at Rome the beginning of September; the father then became univerſally ſuſpected, and his conduct was carefully attended to; it was known that he complained ſeverely to his friends, that his ſervices in France were not ſufficiently rewarded, and that he talked in ſuch a manner, as to induce a belief that he had entered into ſome ſecret engagements with the King's enemies; it was then reſolved to ſecure his perſon, as well for the ſake of explaining ſuſpicions ſo well founded, as to diſcover more eaſily through him the intrigues of his ſon, with whom he was probably an accomplice.

It was propoſed to him to go to Longon, to ſee the place, and to give an account of the ſtate in which he found it, but he ſeemed to diſtruſt the intentions of the miniſters, in whom he ſhould have implicitly confided, if his conſcience had not reproached him; and he did not immediately accept this commiſſion. He left Rome in October, and it appears by a letter he wrote from his priſon, to a perſon named Albaneſe, his intimate friend, that they had conſulted whether he ſhould go to Longon or not, and though at laſt he determined to go, he was always afraid he ſhould be detained.

As ſoon as it was known at Rome that his perſon was ſecured, the Pope was applied to, to ſeize his papers; his Holineſs gave orders for that purpoſe; but whether Aſſurini had ſecreted them before he left Rome, or his friends, informed of the Pope's intentions, had removed every thing of conſequence, nothing was found but a few letters, of ſmall importance. It has been ſince known that Albaneſe had ſaid, *that Aſſurini's papers were already with the Marquis de Prie, when it was intended to ſeize them, that he had been privately informed of the orders given by the Pope, and that they were not ſo imprudent as to ſuffer a ſurpriſe.* All the letters to many of his friends from priſon have been detained. He diſcovers throughout a mind miſerably affected for having ſuffered himſelf to be laid hold of, and perſuaded he ſhall never recover his liberty if he did not uſe extraordinary means, ſuch as bribing his keepers, or inducing the Pope to demand him as his ſubject. It is true, he notices to his ſon, of whoſe detention he was ignorant, and to ſeveral friends, to apply to the miniſters of France and Spain to obtain his liberty, but he appears to rely very little on the goodneſs of his cauſe, or on their repreſentations, and thinks it were better to addreſs the Pope, his ſovereign, or to endeavour to effect his eſcape by ſtratagem. He breathes nothing but vengeance when he gains his liberty, and he recommends to his ſon to take warning from his misfortune, and never to truſt any perſon in future.

He thought he had gained over the valet-de-chambre of the governor of Longon, and entruſted him with his letters, conceiving they would be more ſafe through his means. Two of them evidently prove his connections with the enemy. They are addreſſed to *Count Polydor*,

Polydor, under cover to a perſon who was to deliver them. Aſſurini obſerves to him, that if he had not been detained at Longon, he ſhould have viſited him on his return to Faenza, to offer him his ſervices in favour of *Signor Alexander*. He begs him to give directions to the Conſuls at Leghorn and Porto Feraio, who are under his orders, to contrive to ſend to Longon a boat with expert rowers, hoping the valet-de-chambre would let them come cloſe to the place where he is confined, and that they ſhould eſcape together. He ſeems to have no doubt that *Count Polydor* will intereſt himſelf in his eſcape: he remarks, nevertheleſs, that when he gets to him, he will ſhow him that his deliverance will not be uſeleſs, having wherewithal to reward ſuch important ſervices; and begs him to procure the command of a troop of horſe for the valet-de-chambre, who ſeemed to wiſh to be in the ſervice of *Signor Alexander*. Inſtead of Aſſurini, he ſigns himſelf Don Diego de Villamajor. It is evident the name of *Signor Alexander* can intend nothing elſe but the Archduke, and that of *Count Polydor* one of his Miniſters, who can procure a troop of horſe, and can command the German Conſuls in Italy: and what confirms this conjecture is, that Aſſurini, when he gave the two letters to the valet-de-chambre, ſaid they were addreſſed to the perſon who had the principal ſway in Italy, and to whom the valet-de-chambre would wiſh him to write, ſuppoſing the valet to be a partizan of the Archduke. We, therefore, have reaſon to imagine that *Count Polydor* muſt be either the Marquis de Prie or the Duke d'Uceda. He knew the latter particularly while he was connected with Cardinal de Janſon, and he might know the other by means of Albaneſe.

Note. (Page 251.)

Memorial concerted with Monſieur de Torcy, 19th January, 1713.

THE inhabitants of Hudſon's Bay, ſubjects of the Queen of Great Britain, who have been diſpoſſeſſed of their lands by France, in time of peace, ſhall be entirely, and immediately after the ratification of the treaty, reſtored to the poſſeſſion of their ſaid lands; and ſuch proprietors ſhall alſo have a juſt and reaſonable ſatisfaction for the loſſes they have ſuffered, with reſpect to their goods, movables, and effects; which loſſes ſhall be ſettled by the judgment of Commiſſaries, to be named for this purpoſe, and ſworn to do juſtice to the parties intereſted.

Note. (Page 251.)

THE Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain had hitherto made a diſtinction between places ceded by the King to the Queen of Great Britain, and places which they denominated reſtored. Under the name of places reſtored, they included Hudſon's Bay and Straits, and the iſland of Newfoundland. They agreed to allow to the French, ſettled in places ceded, the liberty to ſell their immovable effects, but inſiſted that the ſame liberty ought not to be allowed in places reſtored, upon a plea that ſuch effects were taken from the Engliſh, who had a right to be reſtored to them. The Plenipotentiaries now make no diſtinction between places ceded and places reſtored, though the ſame expreſſion remains in article 14. They only leave the King's ſubjects at equal liberty to depart from both, if they pleaſe, in the ſpace of a year, with their goods and movables. According to conditions agreed upon, it ſhould be ſtipulated that the French ſettlers in Acadia, or in the iſland of St. Chriſtopher, ſhall have the liberty to depart, *to ſell*, or to carry elſewhere, all their movable effects, if they pleaſe, and to ſell their immovables. With regard to places reſtored in Hudſon's Bay and Straits, the Engliſh ſhall recover poſſeſſion of the immovables of which they were diſpoſſeſſed, provided they prove to the Commiſſaries that ſuch effects belonged to their fathers or to themſelves.

With reſpect to the iſland of Newfoundland, it has been agreed that the French be permitted to ſell their houſes in Placentia, and the ſurrounding new-cleared lands, becauſe Placentia was built by them, and the Engliſh were never in poſſeſſion of theſe effects.

The term to be allowed to the French to ſell their effects, ought to be eighteen months, as they would find a difficulty in diſpoſing of their property within ſo ſhort a term as a year.

Note.

Note. (Page 252.)

(*Received from Monſieur de Torcy, and ſent to Lord Bolingbroke, 29th December,* 1712.)

Propoſition concerted with Mr. Prior.

THAT the iſland of Cape Breton ſhall remain to the King, with liberty to fortify it: that the province of Acadia, with all its rights and prerogatives, which the French have enjoyed, ſhall be ceded by his Majeſty to the Queen of Great Britain, with the iſland of Newfoundland, and the iſlands adjacent; it being well underſtood, that the French ſhall have and keep the power to fiſh and dry their cod on the coaſts of the ſaid iſland of Newfoundland, from Cape Bonaviſta northwards to Point Riche: that all the iſlands at the entrance of the river, and in the gulf of St. Lawrence, ſhall belong to the King.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 273.)

SIR,

Verſailles, February 7th, 1713, N.S.

I HAVE had great pleaſure in burning a letter I had the honour to write to you the day before yeſterday: I entreated you to finiſh a negociation which was lingering; but, thank God! you have brought it to a concluſion; and though we were forced to yield to Matthew's vehemence, I do not grudge him a victory that has ſettled the peace between us. Let it be immediately ſigned, to ſilence the falſe reaſoners, who are very numerous in all countries.

The Queen will diveſt thoſe in Holland of all credit, when ſhe determines to explain herſelf in a becoming manner, and to preſcribe a very ſhort term for her allies to ſign with her, if her Britannic Majeſty will condeſcend ſtill to wait for them; but in truth time is very precious, and when both parties are agreed, it ſeems to me improper to retard a bleſſing in conſideration of thoſe whoſe only aim was to prevent it.

Though the peace reunites the two nations, I aſſure you, my Lord, it cannot augment my deſire to merit the continuance of the honour of your friendſhip, and to make known to you upon all occaſions, how much I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 274.)

Whitehall, February 17th, O.S. 1712-13.

I BELIEVE, Sir, the preſent criſis, and the importance of the buſineſs now on hand, will be an excuſe for troubling you with a letter from me, and for adding, of my own accord, ſomething to what the Duke of Shrewſbury will ſay to you as from the Queen.

I conſider the peace between Great Britain and France as ſettled, ſince it is certain that the differences which remain undecided in the 14th article, reſpecting the *bona immobilia*, and in the 12th, reſpecting the thirty leagues, will not retard the concluſion of it; if, then, the Queen's allies perſiſt in their diſinclination to treat, and if, when they treat, they continue to inſiſt upon ſuch demands as they have hitherto made, we have nothing to do but to ſign a ſeparate peace, leaving to them a term to accept the King's plan, purſuant to the Queen's former promiſe. But, Sir, you ſee they are coming to, and the difference between what your Miniſters propoſe, and what the others demand, is not ſufficiently conſiderable to authorize us to ſay they remain ſtill in the wrong, they are obſtinate, and we muſt abandon them.

The Queen has deferred, as long as ſhe could, preſcribing to her allies; ſhe wiſhed even to clear the way for his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty's Miniſters to gain upon thoſe minds, rendered more tractable by the events of the laſt campaign. But the ſeaſon advances; perhaps we ſhould conſider it as too far advanced, did we not depend upon your inclination to make a reaſonable peace, and not to avail yourſelves of every little advantage for the continuance of the war. We muſt then either prevent the opening of the campaign, by the concluſion

of

of the peace, or immediately prepare to treat ſword in hand; the firſt is infinitely preferable to the laſt; for this purpoſe, I have juſt diſpatched to the Duke of Shrewſbury her Majeſty's laſt ſentiments upon the articles which ſtill remain unſettled at Utrecht. If the King thinks proper to concur with the Queen, theſe points, and thoſe which have already been granted by the Plenipotentiaries of France, will conſtitute the general plan, which the Queen and the King will jointly offer to the parties intereſted.

If the allies accept this plan, the general peace is ſecure; if they do not accept it, that of her Majeſty will be ſigned, as ſoon as your Miniſters themſelves deſire. I cannot prevail upon myſelf even to ſuppoſe that this plan can be rejected, ſince it contains all the facility her Majeſty is able to give, and ſince in this caſe ſhe would be obliged to ſpeak to her Parliament of the ſucceſs of the negociation as uncertain. You ſee, Sir, what advantage that would give to the ill-diſpoſed every where, what embarraſſment it would occaſion here, and what diſorder in the reſt of Europe.

You will now have the whole plan of the peace before you; you need fear no ulterior demands; and the King may in one moment finiſh what would take months, not to ſay years, to regulate at the Congreſs

Our Parliament will not meet till the 3d of next month, O.S. ſo that we have time enough to receive your anſwers, and to take our meaſures which depend upon your reſolves, for the Queen is enabled to give whatever turn ſhe wiſhes to our affairs.

Probably all your advices do not agree with what I have the honour to ſtate, yet I believe I am ſufficiently informed of what paſſes here, to be able to anſwer to you for the conduct of our Court, and the temper of our people. But it is certain I write to you naturally what I know, and what I think; I have never deceived you, and I never will deceive you, and no one is more than I am, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

The Queen's Plenipotentiaries inform me that they have begun to ſpeak of the intereſt of the Duke of St. Pierre, and hope to be of ſervice to him.

Note. (Page 286.)

[*As this Memorial was drawn up in purſuance of, and contains, the Queen's orders and inſtructions, ſent to the Duke of Shrewſbury by Lord Bolingbroke, the* 17*th and* 18*th February, and is beſides nearly a tranſcript of them, a tranſlation of it was judged unneceſſary.*]

Note. (Page 287.)

Memorial of the Marquis de Torcy, concerning the bona immobilia.

IT is common in treaties, even in the capitulations of towns, to ſuffer the inhabitants of thoſe places, which change maſters, to depart, to tranſport elſewhere their effects, to diſpoſe of their goods, and to ſell them, whether movable or immovable; the treaty of peace between the King and the Queen of Great Britain, having for its principal object the eſtabliſhment of a perfect union between the two nations, ought not to contain, with reſpect to the French, any clauſes more rigorous that thoſe of ordinary treaties.

A deſire, however, has manifeſted itſelf, of debarring the inhabitants of places which the King gives up to England the ſame liberty as is granted in all treaties, and of which a particular inſtance occurs in the 11th article of the treaty of Breda. The King of England, Charles II, when he ceded Acadia to France, reſerved, for ſuch inhabitants of the country as wiſhed to depart, the entire liberty of ſelling and diſpoſing of, as they pleaſed, all their goods, movable and immovable, and generally of all their effects. The King requires nothing more at this day than what was done in 1667, with regard to England; and his Majeſty's propoſal is ſo much the more juſt, as it appears inequitable for either the King or the Queen of Great Britain to interfere with the ſubſtance of individuals, and to deprive any perſon

perſon, without cauſe, of his lawful poſſeſſions. This truth is ſo evident, that the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain at Utrecht always make a diſtinction between places that ſhould be ceded and thoſe that ſhould be reſtored by France; they compriſed the iſland of St. Chriſtopher and Acadia under the name of places ceded, and for this reaſon they allowed to the French ſettled in both the liberty to ſell their immovables. The Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain refuſed this liberty in places reſtored, that is to ſay, in Hudſon's Bay and the iſland of Newfoundland.

The King conſented to give to Commiſſaries, to be named after the peace, authority to give poſſeſſion to the Engliſh who ſhould prove they were proprietors, or the heirs of proprietors, of effects in Hudſon's Bay. As to thoſe in Newfoundland, his Majeſty inſiſted that the town of Placentia, having been built by the French, the houſes in that town, and the new-cleared lands round about it, were immovables, which had never belonged to the Engliſh, conſequently the inhabitants ought to have the entire liberty of diſpoſing of them. This power, reſerved in all treaties, does no prejudice to the ſovereignty of the Princes to whom the places are ceded, it only ſecures the intereſt of the individuals; and as it is but juſt to give thoſe, who have done no harm, the free diſpoſal of their effects, the King, convinced of her Britannic Majeſty's equitable intentions, ſubmits this queſtion to the Queen's deciſion. His Majeſty, however, will not permit ſuch a difficulty to retard the concluſion of the peace; he orders his Plenipotentiaries to ſign it, and to let article 14 remain as drawn up by the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, reckoning, that if the Queen wiſhes to alter it, and to have it drawn agreeable to the 11th article of the treaty of Breda, the alteration will be made before the treaty is ratified.

Article 11, *of the treaty of Breda.*

If ſome of the inhabitants of the country called Acadia prefer being, in future, ſubject to the King of England, they ſhall have the liberty to depart during the ſpace of a year, computed from the day on which that country ſhall be given up, and to ſell, alienate their funds, lands, ſlaves, and, in general, all their goods, movable and immovable, or to diſpoſe of them otherwiſe, at their own diſcretion; and thoſe who ſhall have contracted with them, ſhall be held and bound by his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty to accompliſh and execute their agreements: that if they like better to carry away with them their ready money, movables, utenſils, and ſlaves, and, in general, all their movable effects, they have full power ſo to do.

Note. (Page 289.)

THE States-General having demanded Poperingue and Bailleul, as belonging to Ipres, the Duke of Shrewſbury, purſuant to the Queen's orders, and the Marquis de Torcy, in obedience to thoſe of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, agree that Bailleul remain to France, and that Poperingue be given up in favour of the Dutch.

Note. (Page 295.)

HAVING laboured daily with the Plenipotentiaries of France, to draw up the articles of the treaty of peace between his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty and his Royal Highneſs, we have met with eſſential difficulties from them, which we did not expect, and had no reaſon ſo to do.

Firſt, They refuſe to inſert in the treaty, that his Royal Highneſs may take poſſeſſion of Vigevinaſco, in caſe, between this time and the peace, his Imperial Majeſty does not give his Royal Highneſs actual poſſeſſion of the equivalent.

Secondly, They conſtantly refuſe to acknowledge the right of the Houſe of Savoy, immediately after that of the Houſe of Auſtria, to the ſucceſſion to thoſe dominions of the Spaniſh monarchy, which will fall, by the peace, to the ſhare of the Emperor.

Thirdly, They inſiſt, with perſeverance, that his Royal Highneſs cannot fortify in the vallies and places which the Moſt Chriſtian King offers to give in exchange for Barcelonette,

nette, which the King demands; and that his Royal Highneſs ſhall be ſuffered to fortify only Exilles and Feneſtrelles, and the valley of Pragelas.

With reſpect to the firſt point, that from repeated aſſurances from her Majeſty's goodneſs to his Royal Highneſs, and from the manner in which her Majeſty always explained herſelf to France, the ceſſions intended by the treaty of 1703, between his Imperial Majeſty and his Royal Highneſs, ought, at the peace, to be carried into full and entire effect, as is evident from the treaty of alliance between the Queen and his Royal Highneſs: you know it has been, and is now, ſolely dependent on the Emperor to grant the equivalent for Vigevinaſco, in a manner very advantageous to him, by accepting the propoſal of the Marquiſate of Final, and giving it up to his Royal Highneſs.

You eaſily underſtand, that the ceſſions implied in the treaty of 1703 would not have their full and entire effect at the peace, if that, after the period between this time and the peace, the Emperor ſhould have refuſed all the propoſals, ſo advantageous to him, to procure an equivalent, he ſhould not be bound to give up even Vigevinaſco; and his Royal Highneſs being again ſent in ſearch of an equivalent undefined, would not ſucceed in the execution of the treaty within the time preſcribed by the treaty itſelf, and the Court of Vienna would compaſs their object, the peace, without executing the treaty.

Upon the ſecond point, you will have the goodneſs, my Lord, to call to mind, that the ſucceſſion of the Houſe of Savoy, immediately after that of Auſtria, to the ſtates of the Spaniſh monarchy, which, by the approaching peace, will remain with the Emperor, has always been conſidered by the Queen as the moſt eſſential point, in juſtice due to the treaty of alliance between his Royal Highneſs and her Majeſty, and to the precautions neceſſary to perpetuate the peace and the balance of Europe; ſo likewiſe in her treaty, her Majeſty has judged it proper, of her own accord, to inſiſt, and in the courſe of this negociation has had the goodneſs to aſſure his Royal Highneſs, through us, that in the treaties of peace this right of ſucceſſion ſhould be ſupported and acknowledged.

It is in conſequence of theſe ſentiments and aſſurances of the Queen, that I, Count Mellerede, among the points which I had the honour to ſend you, my Lord, and in the article of guaranty, in which, in the treaty of peace, the Moſt Chriſtian King was to join with her Majeſty, remarked the guaranty for the right of ſucceſſion, and the demand appeared reaſonable to the Lords of the Council.

The Plenipotentiaries of France ſay they cannot acknowledge the will of Philip IV, which is contrary to, and deſtructive of, that of Charles II. This difficulty is immediately removed by the offer we make, to be ſatisfied, if, in the treaty of peace, no mention be made of the ſaid will of Philip IV; but that it be only expreſſed, that the Houſe of Savoy ſhall ſucceed immediately after that of Auſtria.

As to what concerns the third point, it is a fact, that when the Moſt Chriſtian King propoſed to the Duke of Shrewſbury, and afterwards to us here, the exchange of the valley of Barcelonette, he made the propoſition without any burdenſome reſtriction or condition, as you know, my Lord, as well as we; to impoſe, then, ſuch a condition, would be ſomething new, and circumſcribing the natural rules of ſovereign power, in a manner improper in a country the ſovereignty of which is ceded, and eſpecially when the diſtricts demanded in exchange are ſuperior in revenue, and have no limited power.

Add to this, we beg of you to obſerve, that the vallies demanded by his Royal Highneſs are thoſe which the Queen judges neceſſary, as in fact they are, for that ſecurity of Piedmont which the Moſt Chriſtian King has promiſed to her Majeſty, and her Majeſty to his Royal Highneſs: now the moſt eſſential point of ſecurity, eſpecially towards a ſuperior power, conſiſts in the ability to fortify as occaſion requires, and conſequently we cannot poſſeſs that ſecurity, if ſo eſſential a point is not granted, and eſpecially as the Alps ſeparate theſe vallies from France. Fortifications only neceſſary for defence, can never ſerve for offence, and cannot give any juſt cauſe for alarm. His Royal Highneſs can entertain no doubt of the Queen's goodneſs and juſtice, and of her effectual ſupport in points ſo eſſential; on this account, we humbly entreat her Majeſty to have the goodneſs to ſend her orders to the Duke of Shrewſbury at Paris, and to her Plenipotentiaries here, that the articles in the treaty of peace between the Moſt Chriſtian King and his Royal Highneſs, upon the above points, may, without farther difficulty,

difficulty be allowed by the Court of France, purſuant to her Majeſty's juſt ſentiments and intentions.

This evening, or to-morrow, the Plenipotentiaries of France, diſpatch a meſſenger to their Court, with the draught of our intended treaty, and it would be of uſe if the Duke of Shrewſbury could receive his orders, and execute them before the French meſſenger is upon his return; and the more ſo, as the Plenipotentiaries of France have declared that the King muſt ſpeak to the Duke of Shrewſbury upon theſe points, before they were decided. We have the honour to be,

COUNT MAFFEI,
MELLARADE.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 305.)

Verſailles. March 8th, 1713.

YOU will ſee, Sir, by the Duke of Shrewſbury's letters, that the King did not wiſh to take farther advantage of the excellent diſpoſitions made for the campaign, than to prevent the opening of it, and to conclude the peace now, rather than wait to treat ſword in hand.

His Majeſty has conformed to all the Queen's wiſhes, ſo that the plan of the general peace, and that of the ſeparate peace being equally adjuſted, nothing prevents either being ſigned at Utrecht without delay, as you remark to me.

Her Britannic Majeſty may conſequently inform her Parliament of the reſult of her labours for the repoſe of Europe, and force the evil-minded to be ſilent. We have no doubt here of her having them abſolutely within her power, and I aſſure you, my Lord, there is nothing in higher credit with us, than your communications for the mutual benefit of the two nations. You have been too ſucceſsful in gaining our implicit faith, for us ever to harbour a diſtruſt of what comes from you, and if you ever were inclined to deceive us, you might have long enjoyed that pleaſure, before we ſhould have ſuſpected you in the ſlighteſt degree: I am, in truth, far from ſuch ideas, and I require of you once more, on this occaſion of the peace, which I conſider as concluded, the continuance of the ſame confidence, and of the ſame proofs of your friendſhip, with which you have hitherto honoured me.

I am perſuaded her Majeſty will be contented with the King's general aſſent to every thing ſhe demanded, but thoſe unfortunate individuals, who have effects in the places ceded or reſtored, will ſcarce be ſo with the law you ſubject them to by Article 14, if her Britannic Majeſty, when informed of the general clauſes in treaties, does not, according to her known equity, decide upon this point; as much is expected from her juſtice.

I refer to what I had the honour to ſay upon this ſubject to the Duke of Shrewſbury, and to what he writes upon it; and I hope that a treaty which is to conſtitute the happineſs of the two nations, the direction and concluſion of which are attributable to your care, will not contain the leaſt appearance of injuſtice.

My Lord, I have a lively ſenſe of the attention you ſhow to the intereſt of the Duke de St. Pierre, and I aſſure you, I want no additional motives to ſtrengthen my attachment to you.

I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 306.)

Whitehall, March 23d, O.S. 1712-13.

I MUST avail myſelf of this opportunity, Sir, to aſſure you of my very humble reſpects, and to tell that my letters from Utrecht of the 20th, 21ſt, and 25th, have almoſt driven me to deſperation; thoſe of the 28th have afforded me a trifle of conſolation, as I learn from them that the general peace will be made at the ſame time; the conditions which Count Sinzendorf demands, before he ſigns for the Emperor, being of a nature not to retard the negociation.

The Duke d'Aumont has been informed, from time to time, of the pretences made uſe of, from one day to another, to prevent the ſigning the treaties between Great Britain and France; he likewiſe knows the anſwers I returned, and the poſitive and repeated orders I ſent by the Queen's orders; ſo that I need not detail them, as they muſt be already known to you.

The Duke of Shrewſbury will communicate to you the orders the Queen has given, and of which ſhe will enforce the obſervance, reſpecting the *bona immobilia* of the King's ſubjects. His Majeſty ſhall be fully ſatisfied upon this head, and the Queen will have much pleaſure in taking this new occaſion of ſhowing how much ſhe has at heart the intereſt of France. She doubts not the King will, on his ſide, have an eye of compaſſion towards thoſe miſerable beings who are now ſuffering in the galleys; ſuch a deed would be worthy of his great ſoul, worthy of his piety; it would be the moſt eſſential proof that his Majeſty can give of his conſideration for her, and will ſilence thoſe vile declaimers who endeavour to blacken the work of the peace, and the characters of all thoſe who have had any ſhare in it. I am, &c.

B.

Note. (Page 323.)

MEMORIAL.

WE the underſigned Miniſters Plenipotentiary of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, do declare, at the requeſt of the Miniſters of her Britannic Majeſty, who do not wiſh to retard the concluſion of the urgent buſineſs now on hand, that if one of the inſtruments of the treaties made and ſigned at Breda, between France and Great Britain, but not in French; we will provide another in Latin, prior to the ratification of the agreement. Done this day at Utrecht, March 14th, 1713.

To the Marquis de Montéleon. (Page 337.)

SIR,

Wednesday, April 7th, 1713.

The more I conſider the draught of the treaty, lately arrived from Madrid, the more I find it impoſſible to accede to certain articles in it. Your Excellency can teſtify, that ſo far from creating any new obſtruction, I am anxious to remove thoſe that now exiſt. If then even I find it impoſſible to paſs theſe articles, you may judge of the ſentiments of the other Miniſters.

The Seſſion of Parliament muſt open on Thurſday next, we have, conſequently, no time to loſe, for I ſhall be very ſorry to hear the Queen ſpeak of the peace with France as concluded, and the treaty ratified, when, at the ſame time, ſhe will be forced to ſay, that the negociation with Spain is ſtill open.

In this caſe it will be impoſſible to anſwer for the misfortunes that may happen. To-morrow morning, at ten o'clock preciſely, I ſhall be at my office; Mr. Moore will attend me; perhaps, with your aſſiſtance, we may be able to hit upon ſome expedients to ſettle the points in diſpute. As Mr. Moore does not ſpeak French, I ſubmit to your Excellency whether you would not bring Don Patricio with you. I am, &c.

To the Marquis de Montéleon. (Page 342.)

SIR,

Whitehall, April 11th, 1713.

I DOUBT not you will do me the juſtice to believe, that I received the agreeable news of the arrival of the fleet from Mexico, with all the pleaſure that a man can feel when convinced, as I am, that the good and the bad fortune of Spain are the ſame to Great Britain.

Your Excellency will ſuffer me to avail myſelf of the opportunity to tell you, that it is abſolutely neceſſary we ſhould find ſome medium upon the article *des fueros* of the Catalans, and upon that of religion in the iſland of Minorca, and at Gibraltar. In truth, it would be hard to ſee a negociation, hitherto fortunate, impeded by trifles, for ſuch I call every thing that now delays the concluſion of the peace between the two nations.

In confidence I will tell you, that I have twice talked to the Queen upon thoſe points, and, as I expected, found her very inflexible upon both. She thinks, that if the queſtion was to cede places to her which ſhe had not conquered, and of which ſhe was not really in poſſeſſion,

the gentlemen of the Inquiſition, might pretend to vote according to the cuſtom of Spain. But at preſent, we muſt view this buſineſs in another light. If the King of Spain makes a formal ſurrender of the iſland of Minorca and Gibraltar to the Queen, the honours, poſſeſſions, and privileges eccleſiaſtical as well ascivil, together with the Catholic religion, ſhall be preſerved to the inhabitants, by an expreſs article. If the King inſiſts upon ſuch terms as will force her Majeſty not to accept the above-mentioned ceſſion, there will be nothing ſtipulated in favour either of the clergy or laity, and the Inquiſition will take the trouble to reflect, how far it may be convenient to them, to give up the intereſts of their religion, to the diſcretion of thoſe whom they call Heretics.

The Queen is aware of the attention, which a Catholic King muſt pay to the repreſentations of the Inquiſition, and her Majeſty, in return, expects that the King your maſter will conſider the attention which a King or a Queen of Great Britain, ought to pay to the opinion of her Parliament. In one word, I entertained ſome hope of being able to adjuſt the article reſpecting the Catalans, by means of the expedient you and I agreed upon, provided that relating to religion ſhould not be diſputed, but that you ſhould be ſatisfied with the general ſtipulation in that reſpect, which is to be found in the minutes ſent to Madrid, and more amply detailed in the draught of the treaty drawn up by me in Latin, and peruſed by us both. I ſhould aſk your Excellency's pardon for ſo long a letter, did I not know the importance of coming to an immediate concluſion, and the impoſſibility of accomodating differences, which ſtill ſubſiſt, in any other manner than that I have juſt mentioned. I am, &c.

To Monſieur Marſchalch. (Page 344.)

SIR,

Whitehall, April 14th, 1713.

WHEN I return you thanks for the honour of your letter of the 18th, N.S. you will allow me to rejoice with you at the happy concluſion of a peace, ſo much oppoſed, and ſo long conteſted.

The wiſe conduct of the King your maſter, who with ſo much reaſon, glories in following the ſteps of his auguſt father, has not a little contributed to the accompliſhment of this great work. You may eaſily imagine the Queen's ſatisfaction, when his Pruſſian Majeſty concurred in ſigning the peace, by the diſpleaſure ſhe ſhowed when the late King's forces ſeparated from hers, and the good underſtanding between our two Courts, ſuffered an interruption.

I am really unable to promiſe you any thing on the ſubject of ſubſidies; it is certain, that no one is ſo able as you are to manage the concerns of your maſter, wherever you may be employed, and particularly at our Court, where you are known, and conſequently eſteemed. I am, &c.

To Count Paſſionei. (Page 345.)

SIR,

Whitehall, April 14th, 1713.

I RECEIVED the honour of your two letters, and I beg you to be perſuaded, that were my power equal to my inclination to ſerve you, you would ſoon have reaſon to be ſatisfied.

Upon the firſt recommendation of the Earl of Strafford, I applied to the Marquis de Monteleon, and found him well diſpoſed. Since that time, I have frequently renewed my ſolicitations to that miniſter, and by the meſſenger who ſets off to-morrow for Spain, I will contrive to get him to make a ſecond application to his Court. I am, &c.

To Monſieur Meſnager. (Page 345.)

SIR,

Whitehall, April 14th, 1713.

YOU will not conſider me as troubleſome, if I do myſelf the honour of congratulating with you upon the perfection of that great work, of which you laid the foundation.

The good correſpondence between our two nations being reſtored by the peace, let it be our care to augment it, and to give it additional vigour by every means in our power.

Among the pleaſures I derive upon ſight of the end of this negociation, I have that of having had the opportunity of becoming acquainted with you. I intreat ſome portion in your remembrance, being aſſured, that I am, &c.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 346.)

Verſailles, April 17th, 1713.

AS your labours, my Lord, have been ſucceſsful, and the treaties of peace and commerce are ſigned, let us forget all our anxieties. In truth, with very ſincere and real joy, I congratulate with you. The delay was a ſevere trial of our patience, but I could never be induced to think, that any project, in which you were concerned, could be in danger of miſcarriage, ſtill leſs could bring my mind to look upon you as an enemy. At laſt, all inquietude and fear have vaniſhed, and I once more compliment you upon it.

The King writes this day to the Queen, and I ſend the letter to the Duke d'Aumont; he has alſo orders, to ſignify to you, my Lord, his Majeſty's ſentiments with reſpect to you, which are not ſuperior to your deſerts, nor equal to the idea which I ſhall ever entertain of them.

The Queen ſhall be ſatisfied with regard to the galley-ſlaves, as I doubt not the King will have reaſon to be with reſpect to the *immobilia*. The peace was effected in ſo amicable a manner, that we cannot ſuppoſe its conſequences will aſſume another complexion.

The Duke of Richmond is at liberty to come hither whenever he pleaſes; but, my Lord, beware how you ſend over ſuch dangerous perſonages as the Ducheſs of Richmond, and her daughter: let us remain true to the Engliſh Church, but depend upon it, that miniſterial functions and philoſophy, are a poor defence againſt certain modes of ſeductio n.

You would not diſpute the truth of this, you who are a miniſter, and whom I know to be much more a philoſopher than I ever was. It is true, you have increaſed my deſire to become one, but I muſt have a few more leſſons from you, and ſhall certainly profit by them, on account of my wiſhes to give you pleaſure and to prove how much I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

As I imagine the Abbé Gaultier is gone, I deſire Matthew to put a letter into his packet.

Note. (Page 346.)

Letter from the Marquis de Torcy, to the Abbé Gaultier, received March 23d, 1713.

March 26th, 1713.

I CAN now inform you of the King's intentions with reſpect to the galley-ſlaves. You were not miſtaken, in judging his Majeſty would be extremely averſe to enter upon a treaty on ſuch a ſubject; but, he is ſo well inclined to pleaſe the Queen, that on this occaſion, I have been witneſs to what I never dared to expect, but before I tell you whatthe King is willing to do, I muſt explain to you, that the greater part of thoſe who pretend they are martyrs to the Proteſtant reformed religion, and who wiſh the world to believe, that they were brought to the galleys purely on that account, are actually there for having attempted to raiſe a ſedition in the Provinces for riotous meetings, and for other acts of diſobedience to the King's decrees and ordinances. Therefore, it is not their pretended zeal, but their diſobedience,

diſobedience, that has been the cauſe of their misfortune, and on ſuch occaſions, indulgence might be productive of unexpected conſequences. Nevertheleſs, the King, on her Majeſty's account, will liberate thoſe who are confined on account of their religion, preſuming, that, according to what you write as from the Lord Treaſurer, the Queen will order the 14th article of the treaty reſpecting the *immobilia*, to be drawn agreeable to the King's deſire, and to the treaty of Breda, upon a like occaſion. This conceſſion muſt not appear as a condition of the treaty, as it would be a precedent for demands which other powers might make in favour of the Calviniſts, and which his Majeſty will not grant, on any account whatever. But on my word pledged to the Lord Treaſurer, which I hope he can depend upon, he muſt diſpatch orders to the Duke of Shrewſbury, to declare in form, that the Queen will agree to the *immobilia* article being drawn in compliance with the King's wiſhes. It is even neceſſary that the article ſhould be ſent to him, ready drawn, or at leaſt that he ſhould be inſtructed in the clauſes he is to accept.

In the mean time he ſhould have orders from the Queen, to demand of his Majeſty the liberty of one part of the galley-ſlaves, for it would be impoſſible to extend that liberty generally to all; and even thoſe who are releaſed, muſt immediately depart the kingdom, and paſs into foreign countries.

Remember well, above all things, that this liberty which the King will grant them, is not to be a condition in the treaty, but a favour granted in conſideration of the Queen of Great Britain.

While ſhe is preparing her orders on this ſubject for the Duke of Shrewſbury, it will be neceſſary ſhe ſhould ſpeak to the Duke d'Aumont upon it. You ſent back la Vigne without informing him, and I am certain he will be offended, and have reaſon to be ſo, and to imagine you wiſhed to negociate without him. As you have probably taken meaſures to extricate yourſelf from this difficulty, and as they muſt not be oppoſed, I ſhall order la Vigne not to enter London as a meſſenger, but to find you out without ſhowing himſelf to the domeſtics of the Duke d'Aumont. I do not even write to him by this opportunity. I intend in three or four days, to ſend back one of his meſſengers, who arrived this morning, with the unpleaſant news of the prorogation of Parliament. Theſe delays occaſion much unpleaſant converſation, but what hurts me ſtill more, is the ſlowneſs of the Britiſh Plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, and the difficulties they continue to make in the articles already ſettled, among others, that which contains the ceſſion of the Upper Palatinate, and the firſt rank in the Electoral College, to the Elector of Bavaria, after the death of the Elector Palatine, and of Prince Charles, an article which I ſettled at Fontainbleau with my Lord Bolingbroke, and of which he left with me a written copy.

In truth, my Lord Treaſurer muſt not ſuffer theſe delays any longer, after all the King has done to promote the peace.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 348.)

Verſailles, April 17th, 1713.

I RECEIVED, Sir, by Baron de Walef, the honour of your letter of the 16th December, O.S. Your recommendation of him, Sir, was ſufficient for me to ſerve him in every way I poſſibly can; but, you have contributed to diſappoint him, in the line in which you wiſhed to ſerve him, by your profitable exertions for the concluſion of the peace.

The King intends to diſband his forces, rather than to augment them, and conſequently, it is impoſſible to take Baron de Walef into his Majeſty's ſervice, notwithſtanding your teſtimony in his favour. I have done my utmoſt to induce the Elector of Bavaria to take him into his, but his arrangements will not allow of it. If I have not been ſucceſsful, Sir, I beg you to believe, that it was not from want of inclination to pleaſe you, and to ſhow how much I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

To

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 249).

SIR,

Whitehall, April 15th, 1713.

I HAVE already forgotten all my anxieties, which would have been much greater, had I not, during the courſe of the negociation, been protected by your integrity, and inſtructed by your wiſdom.

But I ſhall never forget the pleaſure and advantage for which I am indebted to the delays and difficulties in our great work, the pleaſure of having ſeen you, and the advantage of copying your example. From the bottom of my heart I give you joy upon the ſucceſs of the treaty, and I doubt not, your Whigs have now recovered from their prejudices; as to ours, they are incurable.

The Duc d'Aumont has imparted to me the honour the king has been willing to heap upon me, by condeſcending to regard, in a favourable light, the ſervices I have endeavoured to do. Dare I, Sir, aſſure his Majeſty of my moſt grateful acknowledgement, and of the profound reſpect which will ever devote me to his ſervice?

As the Queen's Ambaſſadors at the Congreſs, have not, for ſome time, written any thing regarding the intereſt of the Duc de St. Pierre, I write to them again, upon that ſubject, by her Majeſty's order. I exhort them to uſe their utmoſt zeal, and to employ their beſt abilities on this occaſion; and I give them to underſtand, that they muſt expect the Queen will be greatly diſſatisfied with their conduct, if, upon any pretence whatever, they act otherwiſe.

The Duke of Richmond is preparing to depart; but the Ducheſs and her daughter will remain here, ſince you dread their ſeductions. In France, beauty may be dangerous; but in a climate ſo dull, and among a people ſo phlegmatic as ours, it is neceſſary.

I never plumed myſelf on being much a philoſopher; but I own I am tempted to entertain ſome opinion of myſelf, when I reflect upon the friendſhip with which you honour me, upon the perfect eſteem I feel for your merit, and upon the inviolable attachment with which I am, &c.

B.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 350).

April 18th, 1713.

AS the Abbé Gaultier is not yet gone, I give him a ſecond letter, to thank you, Sir, for the attention you paid to the Duke of Shrewſbury's repreſentations, on the ſubject of the declaration he demanded, as to the exceptions contained in the 9th article of the treaty of commerce. This is an additional proof of the good faith which has prevailed throughout the negociation, and which is too well eſtabliſhed not to ſubſiſt after the peace.

With much pleaſure, I heard of the new favour the king has conferred upon the Abbé Gaultier. Indeed, Sir, his conduct has deſerved this diſtinction. No one can ſerve a maſter with more zeal than he has done, and I dare aſſert, that the knowledge he has of this country, as well as the truſt repoſed in him, by thoſe in office, will enable him to be very uſeful upon all occaſions, in which it may be neceſſary for the King's ſervice, to treat with us.

The Marquis de Montéleon is preparing for his departure to Holland. I believe he is ſatisfied with us, as he has experienced much compliance in eſſential matters. I own to you, Sir, we have not experienced the ſame, in certain points, which are of no conſequence to the Catholic King, but which are of importance to the Queen; having a reference to the engagements ſhe is under, to the occurrences of the times, and the conſtitution of our government.

I am much deceived if the Marquis de Montéleon is not of my opinion upon this ſubject. I am, &c.

B.

Note.

Note. (Page 353).

Propoſition made by the French Plenipotentiaries, at Utrecht.

THE ſtates and places, in Italy, which do not depend either upon the kingdom of Naples, or the duchy of Milan, ſhall be reſtored to their lawful owners.

With the Marquis de Torcy.

April 5th-16th, 1713.

THE points reſpecting Mantua, Mirandola, Caſtillone, Comachio, &c. muſt not retard the concluſion of the peace between the Houſe of Auſtria and France; but, after ſigning the treaty, a city in Italy ſhall be fixed upon, where the Plenipotentiaries, who, on this account ſhall be named, as well on the part of his Imperial Majeſty, as on thoſe of the other parties intereſted, ſhall meet, to diſcuſs and aſcertain what may belong to each.——The four places on the coaſt of Tuſcany are adjudged to belong to the Houſe of Auſtria.

Note. (Page 354).

Reſtrictions neceſſary to be enacted, upon granting the tariff of 1664 *to the Dutch.*

1. WHALEBONE, cut and prepared, blubber, and whale-oil, ſhall pay, at all the ports in the kingdom, the duties mentioned in the tariff of December 7th, 1699.

2. Cloths, ratines, and ſerges, ſhall be liable to the ſame duties as in the tariff of December 7th, 1699; and, to accomodate the trade, they ſhall be ſuffered to be imported at St. Valery ſur Somme, Rouen, and Bourdeaux *; where theſe ſtuffs ſhall be liable to be ſearched, in the ſame manner as thoſe manufactured in the kingdom.

3. The Dutch ſhall only import ſalt fiſh, in barrels; and at all the ports in the kingdom, even in the free ports, it ſhall pay the duties of entry and conſumption, ordered before the tariff of 1664; and, beſides, forty livres per laſt, conſiſting of twelve barrels, weighing 300 pound each, for the entrance duty; which entry ſhall only be permitted at St. Valery ſur Somme, Rouen, Nantz, Lebourne, and Bourdeaux; and ſhall be forbidden at all other ports, as well in the ocean as in the Mediterranean.

4. Sugar, refined, in loaf, or in powder, candied, white, and brown, ſhall pay the duties enacted by the tariff of December 7th, 1699.

To the Marchioneſs de Croiſſy. (Page 365).

Whitehall, April 19th, 1713.

I AM delighted to learn, Madam, that you are ſatisfied with the watch which I had the honour to ſend you, by Monſieur de Verrou. There is nothing I ſearch for with more eagerneſs, than the opportunity of pleaſing you. Every one's uſe in this world is in proportion to his ability; and ſome degree of merit may be claimed even in trifles. I hope, Madam, you are convinced I have endeavoured at ſome merit in an affair of importance, I mean that of the Duc de St. Pierre. The Queen's orders, on that ſubject, were repeated to her Plenipotentiaries, a few days ago, in the ſtrongeſt and moſt poſitive terms. I am willing to hope the effect will anſwer the means employed. You may be certain, that, on my part, I will neglect nothing that may contribute to the ſucceſs of the pretentions of thoſe who have the honour to belong to you, being, &c.

* The entry of theſe merchandiſe was only permitted at Calais, and St. Valery ſur Somme.

To the Biſhop of Montpellier. (Page 366).

Whitehall, April 19th, 1713.

PERMIT me, Sir, to avail myſelf of the opportunity which the Abbé Gaultier's return to France affords me, to recal to your remembrance, a man, on whoſe heart your merit and kindneſs have made ſuch an impreſſion, as can never be effaced.

I ſaw the gentleman whoſe intereſt you recommended to me, and I have tried to do him all the ſervice in my power. As he has not applied to me for ſome time paſt, I am in hopes his ſuit has ended in a manner agreeable to his wiſhes.

In a ſhort time I ſhall have the honour to ſend you the Cæſar I promiſed you, and I flatter myſelf, that upon all occaſions on which I may be ſo fortunate as to be of ſome ſervice to you, you will employ me as one wholly yours, &c.

To Count Dernath. (Page 371).

SIR,

Tueſday, April 28th, 1713.

WHEN the buſineſs with which I am entruſted will allow me, I ſhall always be pleaſed to ſee you, and to receive the orders you may have to give me. By the letters which arrived yeſterday, and not before, we received the anſwer to what I had written to Holland on the affairs of the North, and particularly of Holſtein.

You know, Sir, the States-General are, in this reſpect, nearly under the ſame engagements as the Queen, therefore her Majeſty wiſhes to act in concert with them.

To-morrow I ſhall have the honour to ſpeak to you more fully on this ſubject, if you will trouble yourſelf, at noon, to ſtep down to the office of, &c.

To the Duc d'Aumont. (Page 374).

Whitehall, May 1ſt, 1713.

YOU may, Sir, aſſure the King, that the Queen's good offices will be urgently employed, to induce his Imperial Majeſty, and his Highneſs the Elector Palatine, to conſent to this expedient, and to any other that, being agreeable to the common intereſt, may make the peace general.

It is an undouted fact, that it is for the benefit of the Emperor, to preſerve the fortifications of Briſac, and thoſe of Kehl; it is alſo for the advantage of the Elector of Bavaria, to return to the poſſeſſion of his dominions, and the exerciſe of his rights, not only with regard to the preſent, but, alſo, to the views he may have in future. Suffer me to add, that it is for the intereſt of France, as well as of Great Britain, that the peace ſhould be definitive and general.

We only wait for the ratifications, which were to be exchanged laſt Tueſday, to proclaim the peace with France, in form. You are not ignorant of the reports which are ſpread abroad by thoſe geniuſes, ſo fruitful in lies, with reſpect to the ratifications; reports which wiſe men deſpiſe, and which only gain the attention of fools. I am, &c.

To the Princeſs Urſini. (Page 377).

May 8th, 1713.

I REPLY, Madam, to the letter your Highneſs has condeſcended to write to me, with every ſentiment of reſpect and acknowledgement that ſuch an honour exacts from me.

If, on the one hand, I cannot flatter myſelf with having that extent of mind which the Marquis de Monteleon attributes to me, I dare, however, aſſure your Highneſs, on the other hand,

hand, that you will ever find in me that integrity and firmneſs of heart, upon all occaſions in which you pleaſe to employ me.

The Earl of Oxford and I, Madam, know perfectly well to whom we are indebted for the favourable diſpoſitions of their Catholic Majeſties towards us. We feel a lively gratitude, and will endeavour by our conduct to merit the honourable title of good Spaniards; in this character, I give your Highneſs joy of the happy pregnancy of the Queen, and I pray God to preſerve her Majeſty, that ſhe may give to Spain more heros, and by a numerous race ſecure the tranquillity of Europe, which is juſt now reſtored.

In fact, Madam, the great work of the peace is no longer in doubt. All the powers engaged in the war, have ſigned their treaties with France; and are ready to do the ſame with Spain, except his Imperial Majeſty, who, following the footſteps of his predeceſſors, wiſhes to be the laſt to conclude.

I have communicated to the Marquis de Montéleon the advices we received reſpecting the intentions of the Court of Vienna, and the judgment we form upon them. He muſt expect to meet with ſome difficulties in the negociation, both from the Imperialiſts and the Dutch; but, with his abilities, ſuch difficulties will only tend to increaſe his fame, and to diſplay his indefatigable zeal in the ſervice of the King his maſter. He will be ſeconded in every thing by the Queen's Plenipotentiaries, who will have nothing to adjuſt with him, as the mutual intereſts of the Queen and the Catholic King are, at laſt, entirely ſettled.

This, Madam, is not the only advantage reſulting from the ſettlement of the project of peace between our two Courts. We, by this means, take from the enemies to the peace, the fine opportunity they would have had, and of which they certainly would have availed themſelves, had the Queen been obliged, when ſhe communicates the treaties of peace and commerce with France to both Houſes of Parliament, which ſhe muſt do this day, to ſpeak of the negociation with Spain as being ſtill open, and if the knowledge of the diſputed points ſhould in this manner come to meetings ſo numerous, and, conſequently, ſo difficult to be governed.

They write from Utrecht, that M. d'Aubigny, who is charged with the intereſt of your Highneſs, is arrived; I flatter myſelf, he will be ſatisfied with the Queen's Plenipotentiaries, and I venture to aſſure your Highneſs, that thoſe gentlemen are ſo inſtructed and impowered, agreeable to the meaſures concerted here between the Marquis de Montéleon and myſelf, that one way or other your pretenſions muſt be ſucceſsful, and obtain all that ſecurity which the Queen's guaranty can afford.

Her Majeſty's yacht, which is to convey the Marquis de Montéleon to Holland, being ready, I ſuppoſe we ſhall, in a few days, loſe a miniſter who, in this country, has made himſelf equally eſteemed and beloved. For my own part, I am inconſolable. I loſe at the ſame time the pleaſure of negociating with an able miniſter, and of living with an agreeable friend. To theſe ſentiments, I muſt add the regret of parting with thoſe gentlemen who came with him from France. To indemnify me in ſome meaſure for theſe misfortunes, I have tried, though vainly, to perſuade Count de Montijo to continue, for ſome time longer, the amuſements of London; had I been ſucceſsful, I ſhould have made my court to every thing valuable here, for every body is admiring the conduct of that young nobleman. We rarely find ſo much judgment combined with ſuch vivacity, or ſuch a knowledge of the world attendant on ſuch early years.

I ſhould be unworthy of the favours your Highneſs has conferred upon me, did I not return you my moſt humble thanks for taking under your protection a gentleman, who is a relation of mine, has ſome merit in his profeſſion, and for whom you have procured the ſituation he holds in his Catholic Majeſty's guards. While life continues, I ſhall retain a grateful remembrance, and ſhall take a pride in ſhowing, upon all occaſions, how much I am, &c.

I take the liberty, Madam, to add a few lines to the letter I had the honour to write to your Highneſs, in order to ſay, that the treaties with France as well as that with Spain, which the Marquis de Montéleon and I ſigned, proviſionally, have been communicated by her Majeſty's order to the two Houſes of Parliament. We have obſerved, that the ſchemes of

thoſe who who are hoſtile to the peace have been diſconcerted by this proceeding. In order to diſcomfit them every where elſe, the Marquis de Montéleon muſt, as ſoon as poſſible, repair to Utrecht, and ſign the peace, in form, with the Duke d'Oſſuna.

With this view, and upon theſe principles, it were to be wiſhed that the ratifications could be exchanged at the return of this meſſenger; which may be done if the King will truſt them to his Plenipotentiaries, in blank, for them to inſert the treaty which they will have ſigned with the Queen's miniſters. I flatter myſelf beforehand, that your Highneſs will grant me this favour, when you reflect, that my ſole object is to place this great work, which we have ſo far happily carried on, out of the reach of danger, to reſtore, as ſoon as poſſible, the former amity between our two nations; to promote what remains to be done at Utrecht by the miniſters of Spain, and to enſure the concluſion of a general, by ſigning a ſeparate peace. I am, &c.

Note. (Page 392.)

Memorial concerning the Ports, Harbours, and Lands, ſituate in the Province of Acadia, which belong to the Duke and Ducheſs de Noirmontier, and to ſome other Individuals.

BY a decree of the Council of State, February 28, 1682, the King granted to the late Marquis de Cheury (father of the Ducheſs of Noirmontier) and to his aſſociates, conſiſting of four perſons (who have declared the ſame for themſelves, their heirs, ſucceſſors, and others intereſted) the lands along the coaſt of Acadia and the river St. John, to form there a regular fiſhery to the extent of ſix leagues on all ſides round the dwelling they may ſelect, of which the King has made them a grant, on condition of paying to him the yearly rent of a mark of ſilver, and of eſtabliſhing the fiſhery in one year.

In conſequence of this decree, the late Marquis de Cheury and his aſſociates eſtabliſhed the fiſhery at Chedabouctou and Canceau, ſo that agreeable to the terms of the ſaid decree, their repreſentatives are proprietors of the ports of Chedabouctou and Canceau, which are good ports, and in a good ſtate of fiſhery, and that of Martingot, at two leagues' diſtance, which is alſo a good port for large ſhips, and has a good fiſhery for large fiſh, and within piſtol-ſhot of this port. At the time of its ſettlement, a fort was built at the entrance of that of Chedabouctou, the place where the regular fiſhery was made.

By another decree of the Council of State, March 3, and by letters-patent, paſſed in the month of April, 1684, the King allowed an extenſion of the firſt grant. His Majeſty has granted to the Marquis de Cheury and to his aſſociates (whoſe names are expreſsly mentioned in their declaration) all the lands and iſlands on the coaſt of Acadia, from Cape Campſeau to the Bay of Toutes Iſles incluſive, with the depth of ten leagues, together with rights of hunting and fiſhing throughout that extent of country, his Majeſty granting all thoſe lands and iſlands in full propriety, and to hold them in fee of the crown of France, without farther charge or rent than two marks of ſilver per year, to be paid at the receipt of the weſtern domains.

This laſt grant is of a great extent of country: for from Cape Campſeau to the Bay of Toutes Iſles incluſive, is twenty leagues, which, with ten leagues in depth, makes 200 leagues of country. In this country there is vaſt quantity of wood for buildings and maſts, places proper for ſawing-mills to prepare planks for ſhips, and other purpoſes. The lands at the depth of one league and a half or two leagues from the ſhore, are adapted to the growth of corn and hemp, there are fine meadows in many places, and pitch and tar may be made of as good quality as thoſe imported from the north.

In the extent of the laſt grant, beſide the three ports in the firſt, there is Moquedome, which is alſo a good harbour for large ſhips, and a good fiſhery; ſo that in the extent of twenty leagues there are four good ports, Chedabouctou, Campſeau, Martingot, and Moquedome; there was, as has been ſaid, a fort built at the entrance of Chedabouctou, and a number of habitations, which were deſtroyed in the war.

From

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 411.)

Marli, May 22, 1713.

THE Abbé Gaultier was certain, Sir, of a good reception, and of my happineſs at the ſight of him, when he brought me two letters from you. There is nothing, I aſſure you, that can give me greater pleaſure than theſe proofs of the continuance of the honour of your friendſhip; I will neglect nothing to preſerve it, and I beg you will believe that I depend abſolutely upon the aſſurances you have given me, well knowing, Sir, your ſteady attachment to thoſe whom you number among your friends. This is a candid and ſerious avowal of my ſentiments, which I entruſt to you; and if, unfortunately, any unlucky jeſt has eſcaped, which becomes ſtill more unlucky from the diſtance between us, and the neceſſity of an explanation, I declare that I hold in deteſtation any thing that may have appeared contrary to my real ſentiments, that I regard it as the work of that evil ſpirit, who often tempts women to ſpeak contrary to truth, and induces men to reſpect their ſayings.

Serioufly, my Lord, I ſhould never have done, were I to tell you, how much I was mortified at what the Abbé Gaultier told me confidentially; but I refer to what I ſhall ſay to him, upon this ſubject, when he returns to you. In the mean time, I beg you to be convinced, that I ſhould think I had loſt every thing, if the friendſhip you have honoured me with ſhall ſuffer any alteration through my fault.

I could in no better manner ſignify to the King your reception of what his Majeſty has ordered the Duke d'Aumont to ſay to you, than by reading to him that paragraph in your letter. You may rely upon it, my Lord, his ſentiments with regard to you are ſuch as you deſerve from all who know you, either perſonally or from your achievements. The ſettlement of the general peace ſtill meets with obſtruction from the Court of Vienna, as your Plenipotentiaries will have informed you; but I own I can ſcarcely believe that theſe difficulties can long ſubſiſt, or that a power, who could not have carried on the war, if he had not been ſupported by the allies, whom he has loſt, can now, after twelve years' war, be in condition to carry it on with his own forces only.

I therefore, hope, that wiſe reflections will ſucceed the firſt tranſport of rage, and nothing is more likely to produce them than firmneſs on the King's ſide, in ſupport of his reſolutions, and a perfect union with the Queen. I wiſh ſhe may approve of the propoſition which the Duke d'Aumont is to make, to put the Elector of Bavaria in poſſeſſion of Sardinia, which may be very eaſily done. The Houſe of Auſtria will certainly not be perſuaded otherwiſe than by demonſtration, that the ravages of war may fall as heavy upon them as upon the Princes of the Empire, and if in the ſequel we could give them juſt cauſe of uneaſineſs on the ſide of Italy, we ſhould ſoon ſee a more pacific tendency in their projects.

It will not be your fault, my Lord, if juſtice is not done to the Duke de St. Pierre; I know not what other modes of expreſſion I can uſe to thank you for your attention to his intereſts, and for the effects already produced. If the Emperor will hear reaſon on the article of peace, you will make him liſten to the ſame monitor on the remunerations due from him. I muſt not preſume to offer my moſt humble thanks to that great Queen, in whoſe name your orders went to Utrecht, but if you think, my Lord, that reſpect will allow me, I entreat you to ſpeak for me, and certainly you will expreſs my thoughts better than I myſelf could.

I ſhared with the Duke of Shrewſbury in the pleaſure of finding an opportunity to manifeſt the good faith of France, in the attention the King paid to what he repreſented on the ſubject of the declaration which he demanded. It is with you now, my Lord, to avenge us for all the abuſive language vomited forth againſt us at Ratiſbon. In truth, among the Germans, we find many occaſions to ſay, their Excellencies are intoxicated.

I wait, with much impatience, the departure of the Marquis de Montéleon, and his arrival at Utrecht. Were he to conſult only his own inclination, I am perſuaded he would not leave London to embark for Holland; but his preſence is ſo very neceſſary there, and the buſineſs would never be ſettled, were he to leave the management of it to his colleague. You know by experience, my Lord, that there are many points upon which the Court of Spain is

unmanageable; judge then if France could govern it. I aſſure you, it was fortunate that Montéleon was choſen to negociate in London, and that any other than he, with ſuch orders from Madrid, would have let the buſineſs, with which he was entruſted, hang on hand a long time.

The Abbé Gaultier ſpoke to me, as from you, about eſtabliſhing a trade with French Flanders. Beſide my inclination to commend any thing that comes from the perſons he named, I believe, my Lord, even without a prepoſſeſſion, nothing can be better for both nations. But you fill up the port of Dunkirk, which would be of eſſential ſervice to this branch of commerce, and which ought never to alarm you, all the fortifications, as well on the ſea as the land ſide, being deſtroyed, and the place remaining only a trading town. This is all I will ſay on this ſubject, for I will not give your Whigs the pleaſure to ſay, that France wiſhes to retract the ſolemn engagements ſhe entered into.

Our Whigs, whom you notice to me, my Lord, are not ſo fond of the Dutch ſince they made peace; but they aſſure us, we can do no harm to the Empire, and that we have every thing to fear from the Germanic body.

You pay for the pleaſure I have in writing to you; for I can ſcarce prevail upon myſelf to conclude a letter, the reading of which will be tireſome to you; I muſt therefore defer what I had farther to ſay, aſſuring you, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 414.)

Whitehall, May 31ſt, 1713.

I AVAIL myſelf of the opportunity of a meſſenger whom I diſpatch to the Duke of Shrewſbury, to return you my very humble thanks for the honour of continuing your friendſhip to me, and for renewing your aſſurances of it in ſo obliging a manner; I depend entirely upon it. I know your heart, and I know my own. I am incapable of committing the leaſt fault, through which I might deſerve an alteration in your friendſhip, and you are too equitable to deprive me, without reaſon, of a bleſſing, which you ſo generouſly beſtowed upon me, and which I value more than life itſelf.

I therefore conjure you, Sir, to make no more reflections on the accident which the Abbé Gaultier mentioned to you; ſince I diſcloſed my opinion upon it, you ought to ſuppoſe it left no bad impreſſion upon my mind. I own, I could not forbear laughing with the Abbé at the inconveniences which thoſe people are liable to, who pretend to intimacies which they do not enjoy, and play the part of a Miniſter of State very unſeaſonably. I judge, as you do, that wiſe reflections will follow the firſt tranſport of rage, and that the Court of Vienna will ſoon alter their tone, and, perhaps, they mean only a change of ſcene, and to conclude the peace any where elſe than at Utrecht.

I ſay nothing more upon this ſubject, becauſe I have ſpoken much at length with the Duke d'Aumont, up n what he communicated to me. You will, perhaps, be at firſt ſurpriſed to learn, that the factious here are moving heaven and earth, to prevent the ninth article of the treaty of commerce having its due effect; but the ſurprize will ceaſe when you take the trouble to conſider, that theſe people are vexed that the prejudices with which they had fettered the minds of the people, were completely done away. They know the moſt certain method to reunite the two nations in the bonds of indiſſoluble friendſhip, is to revive a free and profitable trade; but it would be the ruin of a plan, which they have at all times worked at, and for five-and-twenty-years with too much ſucceſs.

We ſhall be ſteadily employed to fruſtrate the deſigns of the evil-minded, and the perfect union now eſtabliſhed, and which muſt be maintained between the two Courts, will enable us to ſucceed.

In a ſhort time I ſhall have the honour to write to you very amply on this ſubject, and on that of Dunkirk. But now, when we are in the middle of a Seſſion of Parliament, domeſtic buſineſs has been heavy upon us, and will not allow us the neceſſary time to think of foreign affairs. We pay all due attention to Northern affairs and the ſituation of Sweden, and the Duke of Shrewſbury will ſpeak to you on theſe heads.

My

My letter becomes inſenſibly too long, I know it, and yet I can ſcarce reſolve to finiſh it. I ſteal away from the intrigues of party, and the debates of a popular aſſembly, to write to the man in the world whom I moſt perfectly eſteem; judge, then, if I am not right in protracting a pleaſure as long as I poſſibly can? I am, &c.

B.

To the Marquis de Monteleon. (Page 418.)

Whitehall, June 1ſt, 1713.

AS your Excellency is now arrived at Utrecht, I begin to avail myſelf of the liberty you gave me, to write to you occaſionally. Beſide the advantage which I ſhall derive for myſelf from this correſpondence, we may perhaps be enabled to promote the mutual intereſts of our two Courts, and ſtrengthen that friendſhip and good underſtanding of which we had the honour to lay the foundation; but the infallible means of doing this, and which would to a certainty make the bonds of union between Great Britain and Spain indiſſoluble, would be your preſence in this country.

I am ſo fully convinced of this truth, that I cannot forbear renewing my inſtances, that you may take every proper meaſure to return to us; and I aſſure you I daily repeat the ſame language to Don Patricio. I did not omit making your compliments to the Queen; and you may be aſſured that the Queen will, at all times, ſhow you every real token of her eſteem for your perſon, and her high opinion of your merit.

I hope, Sir, you will not delay ſigning the treaty of peace which we adjuſted here; and the rather, as I find that in the end the Catholic King will be very well ſatisfied with the article about religion, that about the Catalans having been drawn up to pleaſe him. In the name of God! let no time be loſt, in ſending you the ratifications in blank, according to what we propoſed.

With regard to the Germans, I retain my firſt opinion: they will ſign the peace; but, crafty as they are, rather than ſign at Utrecht, they will accept of perhaps worſe conditions.

By this poſt I write to the Queen's Plenipotentiaries, upon the intereſt of the Princeſs Urſini. As the Emperor delays all accommodation, and as it is probable the theatre of negociation is about to be changed, it would be proper to agree upon, without loſs of time, the plan we are to purſue, and to bring the Dutch into it.

Farewell, my dear Sir; do me the juſtice to believe, that I am, &c.

To the Marquis de Monteleon. (Page 422.)

Whitehall, June 9th, 1713.

I ANSWER, Sir, your letter of the 7th, N.S. and that which Count de Lecheraine gave me at the ſame time. The intelligence your Excellency gives me, that the ratifications will be ſent in the terms we agreed upon, is a conſolation to me, without which I own I ſhould have been vexed with the tardineſs of your colleague. Teach the Duke d'Oſſuna, that in politics, as in love, we muſt not loſe favourable opportunities, nor expoſe ourſelves to contingencies.

I am ſorry to remark in the Princeſs Urſini's letter ſome traits of aſperity; the contents of the treaty are, if I am not deceived, conformable to the terms of the firſt propoſal made by France in favour of that Princeſs. But, Sir, you know the Queen's intentions, and the plan ſhe is ready to adopt.

Excuſe the haſte with which I write, and believe me, I am, &c.

I forgot to thank your Excellency for your letter of the 16th inſtant. In the name of God! finiſh the treaty, and return hither. If your Court could ſee the conſequence of ſuch a reſolution in the light we do, they would not heſitate a moment to ſend you to London, as ſoon as you had concluded at Utrecht.

To Count Montijo. (Page 423.)

Whitehall, June 19th, 1713.

I HAVE, during my life, often been in love, my very dear, very amiable Count, but I do not remember that, upon leaving the object of my affections, I ever felt ſuch acute ſorrow as when I parted from you; nor ever received a *billet-doux* that gave me pleaſure equal to that occaſioned by your letter. The Queen's officers whom you met with in our garriſons, did nothing more than their duty, in paying you the honours which lay in their power: had they omitted them, they would certainly have drawn upon them the anger of all gallant men and pretty women.

Madame Marſchalch has been in this country a year and a half; we were ſurpriſed with her beauty, and will be delighted to ſee her again. To compenſate for the good news you ſend me, I muſt tell you, that the Ducheſs of Richmond and Lady Newbury deſire their compliments, and beg you will not forget them. Lady Berkeley, alſo, depends upon your remembrance of her.

I incloſe the cypher I promiſed. Preſerve your affection for me, and be aſſured of my tenderneſs and eſteem. Farewell, my dear friend; tears are in my eyes when I finiſh my letter: once more, farewell. I am, &c.

Wyndham, the old ſoldier, and the Duke, aſſure you of their eſteem and eternal remembrance: there is not a place in the world where you are more regretted than at Craco Hall.

I am obliged to defer ſending the cypher till next week.

To the Duke de St. Pierré. (Page 426.)

SIR,

Whitehall, June 22d, 1713.

I HAD the honour to receive your letter of the 27th inſtant, N.S. by Count de Lecheraine, as alſo that in January, with the incloſed memorials. I acknowledge I never ſaw a right better founded than your's, nor harder treatment than you have ſuffered. Such is my opinion; but I venture to add, what is of far greater importance, that it is the opinion of the Queen. I wrote frequently to the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain in this ſtyle, and I know not how orders can be drawn up to be more preciſe and poſitive than thoſe they received on your account.

I think I have noticed to the Marquis de Torcy, and I repeat it to you, Sir, that you have only to commit to writing the inſtructions you may wiſh to have ſent to our Miniſter, and I can anſwer the Queen will give her orders accordingly. In the mean time, her Majeſty has ordered me to write, by the meſſenger that ſets off to-morrow, upon the plan in your laſt letter.

I pride myſelf, Sir, upon being a plain, open man, my enemies may probably tell you I am too much ſo, but it is certain I will never deceive any perſon; and were I ſo inclined, I ſhould not begin with the Duke of St. Pierre, the brother-in-law of the Marquis de Torcy. In one word, rely upon it, that there is nothing within my power which I am not ready to do for your ſervice. I heartily wiſh I could both give and execute the inſtructions, but in my ſituation I can only do the firſt.

The conferences between the Imperial and French Miniſters at Utrecht are broken off; God knows where they may be reſumed! But wherever the Queen's Miniſters are, you will find zealous agents and faithful ſervants. I am, &c.

To the Princeſs Urſini. (Page 428.)

MADAM,

Whitehall, June 25th, O.S. 1713.

I CANNOT omit joining with the Duke d'Oſſuna, and the Marquis de Montéleon, in recommending the Count de Lecheraine to your Highneſs's protection. After having re-

ceived,

ceived, in the perſon of my relative, ſuch evident tokens of generoſity, I ought to conſider why, in ſo ſhort a time, I make a ſecond application; but in truth, Madam, I ſhould be more aſhamed were I to withhold my teſtimony to the diſtinguiſhed merit of him who has the honour to convey this letter.

I have known Count de Lecheraine many years; he was in our ſervice during the war, and is one of the ſenior Major-generals; and I can aſſure your Highneſs, that whenever any of our greateſt plans which were executed in Germany, or elſewhere, were under conſideration, he was always in the ſecret, and conſtantly acquitted himſelf with honour in the part entruſted to him. In making the eulogy of my friend, Madam, I confine myſelf to ſimple facts, without the leaſt exaggeration: I will conclude it by aſſuring your Highneſs, that if, under your patronage, he is ſo fortunate as to enter into the ſervice of his Catholic Majeſty, he will anſwer the character I gave him, that of a good man, both in the cabinet and in the field.

The intelligence your Highneſs receives direct from Utrecht, informs you ſo exactly of every thing that paſſes there, that it would be ſuperfluous in me to ſay any thing upon that ſubject. The Queen's Plenipotentiaries were inſtructed purſuant to the wiſhes of the Marquis de Monteleon, and I flatter myſelf that Miniſter is ably ſeconded by them, as he ſeems to be very well contented. I have the honour to be, &c.

To the Princeſs Urſini. (Page 437.)

Whitehall, July 5th, 1713.

I SEE, Madam, by letters from Lord Lexington, and the Marquis de Monteleon, the uneaſineſs your Highneſs laboured under, when you obſerved that the project laſt ſent from hence, and upon the baſis of which, we hoped the Plenipotentiaries at the Congreſs would ſoon accompliſh the treaty of peace, did not contain the article reſpecting the independent ſovereignty. I would not therefore loſe a moment in diſpatching this meſſenger, to inform your Highneſs of the grounds upon which the Marquis de Monteleon and I, regulated our conduct. I flatter myſelf beforehand, that you will be ſatisfied, and will find that your intereſt, with relation to the Queen, could not be better ordered. The plan contains only thoſe articles of the treaty of peace, which relate ſolely to the two Courts, in the negociating of which no other power has a right to interfere, and of which, we were then in a condition to ſettle the terms definitively.

There are other articles, as that which relates to the ſovereignty of your Highneſs, that which relates to the fief of Sienna, and that which his Catholic Majeſty is ſo deſirous of, to prevent any ulterior diſmemberment of the Spaniſh monarchy, upon which there is not the leaſt diſpute between the Queen's miniſters and thoſe of his Majeſty, and yet it was impoſſible to know preciſely in what terms they ſhould be inſerted in the treaty, at the time when we ſigned the project. This, Madam, is the only reaſon, why your Highneſs did not find the ſtipulation you expected. The ſubſtance was agreed upon, the proper form only was wanting. As I have entered at large upon this ſubject with Lord Lexington, I will not treſpaſs farther on your Highneſs's patience, that Miniſter will have the honour to explain to you our ideas, and to aſſure you, there is no cauſe for alarm.

The Queen's good faith has been evident during the whole of the negociation, and her Majeſty will certainly not grow cool in an affair ſhe has taken ſo much to heart, and upon which, your Highneſs muſt know the ardour and reſolution with which her Miniſters have inſiſted. If in the treaty between France and Holland, they have been ſatisfied with the term principality, without ſpecifying the ſovereignty and independence, which gives occaſion to the Miniſters of the States, to quibble with thoſe of Spain, they have done wrong, but it is eaſily remedied, and I dare anſwer to your Highneſs, as my Lord Strafford has done to the Marquis de Monteleon, who was alarmed at a conference he had with Mynheer Vanderduſſen, that the Spaniſh Plenipotentiaries have only to be firm and united with thoſe of Great Britain, in order to paſs this article in the manner agreed upon and drawn up by them.

I cannot prevail upon myſelf to conclude this letter, which from its length muſt be tireſome, without having the honour to tell your Highneſs, that the Queen hopes the treaty

of commerce is perfected, ſince her Majeſty cannot ſuffer Mr. Gilligan to remain any longer at Madrid, as ſhe is in want of his ſervices elſewhere.

The Queen did every thing in her power to remove the difficulties that had occurred, and to facilitate the negociations of the Spaniſh miniſters as well here as at Utrecht; ſhe flatters herſelf, that in return the Catholic King will ſend all neceſſary orders to conclude a treaty, which relates to the intereſts of both nations, and which has been many months under diſcuſſion. I am, &c.

To the Marquis de Montéleon. (Page 440.)

Whitehall, July 12th, 1713.

I WAS not much in a hurry, I own, Sir, to anſwer the honour of your letter the 2d inſtant, N.S. which I received from Monſieur Tanqueux, becauſe, I knew that in a few days, every thing the Queen could do in favour of the Princeſs Urſini, would be done, and becauſe, I alſo knew how impoſſible it was to make any addition to the poſitive orders with which the Queen's ambaſſadors were already provided.

You have ſpoke, Sir, to Mynheer Vanderduſſen, and to the other Deputies of the States, in a ſtyle that muſt be kept up; continue to do ſo, theſe people will yield, and the reſult of the buſineſs will be agreeable to our wiſhes. I muſt not conceal from you, that I found the Queen a little offended, that the Princeſs Urſini has ſo ſoon taken the alarm, and that ſuch ill-founded ſuſpicions have ſtopped the courſe of the negociations at Madrid, and impeded a treaty which ſhould have been concluded a long time ago: her Majeſty thinks, that after all her declarations, after all the meaſures ſhe has taken for that Princeſs, her good faith, which her Majeſty has never forfeited, ſhould not have been called in queſtion.

I give your Excellency joy with all my heart, of the accompliſhment of our grand work; let us labour to make that union, newly ſettled, eternal, by removing all jealouſy which can alone hurt it. It is unneceſſary for me to explain myſelf farther, your Excellency knows my meaning.

The Queen's miniſters will certainly confer with you, purſuant to the orders, I ſend them by this meſſenger. Your Excellency will ſee, by their repreſentations, in what light her Majeſty ſees the negociation between Spain and Portugal. I will not enlarge upon this; I will confine myſelf to intreat you will let the Court of Madrid be fully informed, that the Queen cannot withhold her ſupport from the Portugueſe, after having obliged them to depart from certain demands, very ſevere to the Catholic King, but ſuch as her Majeſty would have been obliged to inſiſt upon, if the Court of Liſbon had not conſented to withdraw them.

I can add nothing to the arguments I have frequently uſed to ſhow the advantage to both nations in ſending you to the Queen. I ſuppoſe you are intended for the embaſſy to France; you know my reflections upon that head; I doubt much that many others will make the ſame. I am, &c.

To the Duke d'Oſſuna. (Page 441).

SIR,

Whitehall, July 21, 1713.

YOUR Excellency will ſuffer me to take advantage of the departure of this meſſenger, to give you joy on the happy concluſion of the great work of the peace. Your attention, Sir, has greatly contributed to it, and I make no doubt you will continue the ſame care to ſtrengthen the union of the two nations.

Your Excellency will ſee, by the article which the Queen's Miniſters have juſt ſigned, and which I ſhall ſend back, ratified, in a few days to Utrecht, infinitely better, what are her Majeſty's intentions concerning the Princeſs Urſini, than by any thing I can write. We flatter ourſelves that Princeſs will now be convinced that her intereſts were in ſafe hands when they were entreated to the Queen. I am, &c.

To the Duke d'Atri. (Page 442.)

Whitehall, July 12th, 1713.

I REJOICE with you, Sir, on the return of peace between two nations, who can never be hoſtile to each other without foregoing their real intereſts. You are my witneſs, Sir, how convinced we are of this maxim. I make no doubt they are as fully perſuaded of the truth of it in Spain, and that nothing will be able in future to diſturb that ſtrict amity and good underſtanding which are juſt reſtored. I am, &c.

To the Marquis de Montéleon. (Page 442.)

Whitehall, July 14th, 1713.

THOUGH I anſwered your laſt letters by the meſſenger who left us on Sunday laſt, yet, Sir, you muſt ſuffer me to ſeize the opportunity of the return of M. Tanqueux to repeat by compliments.

I hear, from all ſides, that the Court of Spain intends to appoint you to the embaſſy to France; even the Duke d'Aumont has aſſured me of it. If ſuch an appointment be agreeable to you, I feel as much intereſted as the ſincereſt friendſhip for you requires. You know, Sir, my ſentiments on this ſubject. The mutual intereſts of Spain and Great Britain, the ſupport of the union we have juſt reſtored, ſeem to demand more care than ordinary in the choice of the Catholic King's Miniſter to this Court, at leaſt, during the two firſt years of the peace. The moſt exact conduct, and moſt perfect confidence, are requiſite to extirpate entirely the prejudices, which have gained ſtrength during the war, to prevent jealouſies which may ariſe during the peace, to lay the foundation for the increaſe of power to the Spaniſh monarchy, in which we ſhould find our account, and to unite us in ſuch a manner, that neither accidents, which may happen here or in Spain, nor the changes, which time may bring about in the general ſyſtem of European affairs, ſhould be able in future to divide our intereſts, or make us inimical to each other. Such are the objects we might have in employing you at the Queen's Court, but his Catholic Majeſty may foreſee contingencies, which may occur in France, of greater conſequence to his kingdoms and family; your Excellency deſired me to write without reſerve; I promiſed ſo to do, and I keep my word.

The Earl of Strafford informs me, that in the article of your treaty with Holland, which ſtates, that the Dutch ſhall be upon the foot of *amiciſſima gens*, there is an exception, for the ſhip allowed to the Queen's ſubjects by the aſſiento. I know not if it had been better, as an exception has been found neceſſary, to couch it in more extenſive terms, with relation to this contract in general.

Tell me, if you pleaſe, confidentially, how far the Duke d'Oſſuna was pleaſed with my anſwer to his letter, ſome time ago, in reſpect to the article he propoſed to inſert in the treaty with Savoy. I own I was much perplexed on that occaſion.

The Dutch Miniſters are, in truth, not very gallant, to create obſtacles in an affair where a lady is concerned; I hope they will give up their opinion, and ſhow, as we do, more politeneſs. I am, &c.

In the name of God, finiſh with the Portugueſe.

To the Princeſs Urſini. (Page 459.)

MADAM,

Whitehall, Auguſt 2d, 1713.

I RECEIVED your Highneſs's letter of the 24th ult. by Lord Lexington's meſſenger. I dare aſſure you, that no one wiſhes more warmly than I do, to be uſeful to you. I endeavoured to exemplify this zeal for the ſervice of your Highneſs, when we were employed on the treaty of peace, which was lately concluded between the two Crowns; I ſhall act upon the ſame principles in future, and your Highneſs may command me, as one entirely devoted to you.

Mr. Lawleſs will have the honour to write, and Lord Lexington to repreſent, *vivâ voce*, to your Highneſs, the reaſons which diſable the Queen from aſſiſting in the expedient propoſed by his Catholic Majeſty, to level thoſe obſtacles, which prevent your Highneſs taking poſſeſſion of the ſovereignty, granted to you by an act of ceſſion of the King of Spain, and of which the Queen was willing to be a guarantee. The Britiſh troops are, indeed, in Ghent, in Bruges, and in Nieuport, but they are very ſmall in number. They are, perhaps, ſufficient for the ordinary garriſon of thoſe places in time of peace, but they do not amount to the fifth part of what would be neceſſary to execute a project, which the States and the people of the country would certainly oppoſe, ſupported by the Emperor and the Dutch.

I muſt not conceal from your Highneſs, that this difficulty is not the only one that occurs; the ceſſion of the Spaniſh Low Countries was made in favour of the Houſe of Auſtria, the Act of Ceſſion was committed to the Queen, in truſt; and her Majeſty has no right to keep a garriſon even in the places above-mentioned, otherwiſe than in the Emperor's name, and that only until the barrier of the Dutch, and the commerce of the Ten Provinces, be ſettled.

Your Highneſs is too juſt not to give in to the force of this reaſoning, and too enlightened not to ſee, that the facts I have the honour to lay before you, will not ſuffer her Majeſty, however ſtrong her inclination to pleaſe you, to undertake a ſcheme of this nature. Still farther to confirm you in this opinion, I ought not to keep from you an account I have juſt received, which is, that the Dutch having taken the alarm at ſome expreſſions dropped at Utrecht, concerning the town of Nieuport, have inſtantly withdrawn the only Walloon regiment they had at Oſtend, and have ſtrengthened that garriſon with battalions of their own troops.

The Duke d'Oſſuna and the Marquis de Montéleon, ſupport Mr. d'Aubigny in his office with all neceſſary ardor and ability. The Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain will, in like manner, keep up to her Majeſty's engagements on this head, and I make no doubt your Highneſs will be, in a ſhort time, contented with the reſult of their united exertions. The Dutch may aſſume a haughty tone, and may affect to be very ſcrupulous in their conduct with the Emperor, but ſtill they muſt conſent to a condition, upon which their peace with Spain depends.

My letter is become immoderately long, your Highneſs may, perhaps, find it tedious; I muſt, however, before I cloſe it, repreſent to you ſhortly, what I explained at length to Monſieur Lawleſs, relative to the Queen's ſentiments, of the preſent ſtate of the negociation with the Spaniſh Miniſters. It appears to her Majeſty, that the only means to remove all hope from thoſe who are for the continuance of the war, is to conclude, as ſoon as poſſible, the treaties now in diſpute, and which ought not to ſuffer any impediment. The foes to the peace flatter themſelves with the hope of accidents that may derange the ſyſtem planned for the reſtoration of the tranquillity of Europe; thoſe gentlemen would be playing with ſhadows, were the peace of the Empire, the only one remaining unfiniſhed. But in truth, Madam, they have ſome reaſon to take courage, when they ſee the ceſſion of Sicily to the Duke of Savoy, granted upon conditions, not inſerted in the treaty, laſt concluded with that Prince; when they ſee neither the armiſtice renewed, nor the peace ſigned with Portugal; in fine, when they know tnat the treaty of commerce between Spain and Great Britain, after a negociation of many months, is ſtill open; that many articles are refuſed, many others drawn in a vague and ambiguous manner; and that two others are ſent from Madrid to Utrecht, that is to ſay, from thoſe who grant powers and inſtructions, to thoſe who can do nothing but receive the one, and execute the other.

The Queen cannot doubt that his Catholic Majeſty will, in this important criſis, take a reſolution worthy of his prudence; and ſhe aſſures herſelf that your Highneſs, who hitherto has contributed ſo largely to the advancement of this great work, will continue to forward it, and not leave it in an imperfect ſtate.

Her Majeſty feels herſelf obliged by the Catholic King's attention to the repreſentations of the French Miniſter, on the ſubject of the Prince de la Riccia. The Queen could wiſh that this unfortunate old man could be enlarged from ſtrict confinement in priſon, where he has languiſhed ſo long, upon ſuch conditions as the King may be pleaſed to preſcribe. This would be an additional obligation ſhe would be under to his Catholic Majeſty. I have only to add to this long letter, my aſſurances, that I am, &c.

B.

From

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 462.)

MY LORD.

Marli, Auguſt 6th, 1713.

I HAVE much pleaſure in giving M. de la Faye, Gentleman in Ordinary of the King's Houſehold, the letter he aſks to you, being certain you will be pleaſed with his acquaintance, and will find he deſerves, of himſelf, the goodneſs I entreat you to extend to him. He will ſee that the commendations beſtowed upon you here, and which affect him ſo much, are not equal to your merit. I hope you will believe him, when he aſſures you, I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 463.)

SIR,

Marli, Auguſt 6th, 1713.

HOWEVER well I may wiſh the Abbé Gaultier, I cannot avoid envying him the happineſs he will ſoon have of being with you. I could wiſh, at leaſt, to ſhare it with him, and that it were cuſtomary to make annual viſits to thoſe whom we honour, and, I will ſay, love, as truly as you deſerve to be, whenever one becomes acquainted with you.

I ſhould refer myſelf to what the Abbé Gaultier would tell you of my ſentiments, did I not depend much more upon the juſtice you do me, and of which you aſſure me in your laſt letter. I entreat you will never entertain a thought to the contrary; and on my part I aſſure you, I will be guarded againſt any pleaſantry that may receive a falſe interpretation.

I ſee, Sir, with much pleaſure, that the principle of maintaining a good correſpondence between the two Courts, is on both ſides ſettled. I hope, that by adhering conſtantly to it, the ſchemes of the evil-minded with you, will fall to the ground, and I believe they would not have ſubſiſted ſo long, had it been poſſible to extinguiſh that remnant of war, which the Court of Vienna will maintain, in hopes of events in France and England.

You know, Sir, the King's diſpoſition for peace; perhaps, if the enemy were leſs convinced of this, they would be more urgent to find means to conclude the war. I wiſh her Majeſty may ſtill have the ſatisfaction to contribute to its extinction, notwithſtanding the diſlike of the Germans to her mediation. You are now at more liberty to evince its importance, as the prorogation of the Parliament gives you more leiſure to conſider of foreign affairs, and I believe the Queen's good offices and inſtances towards a general pacification, will always have great weight.

I entreat you, my Lord, to preſerve for me, the ſhare you promiſed me in the honour of your friendſhip. No one can be, with greater truth, than I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

To Count de Maffei. (Page 475.)

SIR,

Windſor, Auguſt 26th, 1713.

I HAVE juſt read to the Queen, his Royal Highneſs's letter, as alſo that which you did me the honour to write. You ſo well know her Majeſty's ſentiments, and the reſolution ſhe took upon the very extraordinary proceeding (to ſay nothing worſe of it) of the Court of Spain, in regard to the treaty laſt concluded at Utrecht, with his Royal Highneſs, that it is unneceſſary for me to be more prolix on that head. It will therefore be ſufficient to tell you, that the Queen approves of your maſter's ſcheme, that he ſhould take actual poſſeſſion of Sicily, and leave to us the taſk of ſcolding the Spaniards, till he is in a condition not to fear delays, if he aſſumes another tone than he ought to uſe in his preſent ſituation.

I will write again, both to France, to Spain, and to Utrecht. The ſecret his Royal Highneſs requires, ſhall be kept inviolably. You will pleaſe to make my compliments to the Marquis de Trivié, and will have the goodneſs to prepoſſeſs him in my favour. The Queen will give him an audience on Monday next, before dinner; I hope you will bring him with you, to take his ſoup with me. I flatter myſelf you will be ſatisfied with the manner in which I have drawn your re-credentials. I am, &c.

B.

To Count de Maffei. (Page 476.)

SIR,

Windſor, Auguſt 28, 1713.

I HAVE juſt received the honour of your letter. The Queen's Plenipotentiaries in Holland ſhall be inſtructed according to your wiſhes. You did well not to conceal any thing from my Lord Peterborough. It is neceſſary he ſhould know every thing that relates to the intereſt of his Royal Highneſs, as the Queen intends him for her ambaſſador to your maſter. I am, &c.

B.

To Count de Maffei. (Page 476.)

Windſor, September 1, 1713.

THE Letters I received from Holland, while we were at dinner, gave me nearly the ſame account as that of the Marquis de Bourg to you. In truth, Sir, we cannot make the uſe of it as the Court of Madrid has done; but we muſt diſſemble our reſentment, that it may have greater effect in time and place. The Queen will follow the plan I propoſed to you yeſterday. I wrote to Utrecht, and every where elſe, that the Queen will think herſelf juſtified, after the recent proceedings of the Court of Spain, in not exchanging the ratifications, until ſhe ſees his Royal Highneſs in the actual poſſeſſion of Sicily. I no longer mention a word of the new or the old treaty; on the contrary, I let the Spaniards believe the Queen only looks to the time to come. Aſſure your maſter, boldly, that he may depend upon all poſſible good will and firmneſs on this ſide. You know, Sir, we ſhall be deficient in neither.

I ſend you a copy of your re-credentials, the original will be ſent to Baron Peronne on Friday next, with the Queen's letters for his Royal Highneſs, for the Ducheſs and for Madame Royale. As I could neither find, in the office of the ſouthern department, your credentials, nor the letters, which the Ducheſs and Madame Royale probably wrote to the Queen at that time, I was obliged to draw up the firſt according to the re-credentials, and her Majeſty in that has done you juſtice. The lettres-de-cachet, which you will receive, are in anſwer to thoſe brought by the Marquis de Trivié. I made your compliments to the Queen with the beſt grace I could; ſhe wiſhes you all happineſs. I ſhall certainly ſend you a letter, when I take the liberty to write to his Royal Highneſs, to thank him for his goodneſs towards me, and to aſſure him of the reſpectful attachment with which I ſhall be, during life, devoted to his ſervice.

Be pleaſed to have the goodneſs to let me know, if you wiſh that in the lettres-de-cachet, which muſt be written to-morrow, the Queen ſhould uſe the Royal Style, that of the re-credentials, having been made and paſſed before we received the news of the exchange of your ratifications, being in the Old Style.

Farewell, my dear Count, retain me in your valuable friendſhip, and be aſſured, that amidſt the changes and caprices of fortune, to which an Engliſh miniſter is expoſed, nothing ſhall be capable of altering that perfect eſteem, with which I am, &c.

B.

To the King of Sicily. (Page 488).

SIRE,

Windsor, September 7th, O.S. 1713.

THE justice your Majesty wishes to do to the sentiments of my heart, and the gracious manner in which your goodness repays the little services that I have been able to do you, beyond their deserts, fill me with gratitude, and load me with honour. I have always, with a becoming respect, admired those great qualities which attach your Majesty to the Queen, my mistress, more closely than the ties of blood; and I have always considered, that, next to her Majesty, my zeal and devotion were due to you; this is a principle which, through life, I will adhere to; happy if, by the sacrifice of life itself, I could more clearly show my submission to your orders, my veneration for your sacred person, and the extent of my gratitude for having had the happiness of deserving your approbation.

I am, with the most perfect attachment, and most profound respect, &c.

B.

To the Marquis de Trivié. (Page 489).

SIR,

Windsor, September 8th, O.S. 1713.

THE Queen's letters-de-cachet for the King and Queen of Sicily, and for Madame Royale, will have been delivered to you, by such of my first clerks as is now in London, and if you have not yet dispatched them, you will be time enough to-morrow morning, since the packet is stopped by my orders, until the arrival of my dispatches for France and Spain, which cannot be ready till to-morrow. I have written to the office, to send you word when the express goes.

By a messenger from the Catholic King, I have just received letters from the Princess Ursini, and the Queen's Ambassador; the latest are of the 4th instant, N.S.; they are in reply to mine written upon the first rumour of what the Court of Spain intended, in relation to your treaty, before even Count de Maffei had spoken to me on the subject, perhaps before he knew any thing of it. I observe, that the style in which I spoke, by her Majesty's order, did not fail of its effect. Montéleon will be here immediately, to make apologies, and endeavour to satisfy the Queen.

Suffer me to suggest to you, by the way: the interests of her Majesty, and of the King your master, will always, as I hope, be the same every where; but on the side of Spain they cannot clash: would it not be proper, that the Ministers of our two Courts should be directed to understand each other?

Be pleased to excuse a letter, ill written, and worse digested; I have not time to correct it. I am, &c.

B.

To the Princess Ursini. (Page 495).

MADAM,

Windsor, September 16th, 1713.

I DO myself the honour to answer the two letters your Highness wrote to me, the 2d and 27th of last month, N.S. and I must ingenuously acknowledge that I feel myself embarrassed how to express the pleasure and acknowledgment I felt when I read them. The maxims upon which your Highness grounds your reasoning, and your conduct, are the only true ones, and I venture to say, no others can do away the obstacles that still subsist to retard the conclusion of a general peace.

By pursuing the principles upon which all our negociations have hitherto turned, we shall infallibly obtain our grand object. By forming new plans, which derange the old system,

we expoſe ourſelves to the overthrow of the whole. If the Queen lays greater ſtreſs upon certain points, than is ſuitable to the intereſts of his Catholic Majeſty, have the goodneſs, Madam, to reflect, and to make others do ſo, upon what was the ſtate of affairs in Europe, when the Queen took upon herſelf thoſe engagements, purſuant to which her Majeſty finds herſelf obliged to ſpeak and to act; how neceſſary thoſe engagements were to diſpoſe minds, irritated by a long war, and intoxicated with ſucceſs, to pacific ſentiments; and how trifling is the compariſon between the reſtoration of the public repoſe, and the more or leſs that remains to be ſettled.

Lord Lexington will inform your Highneſs, that the Queen's opinion was againſt the Marquis de Montéleon's journey. Her Majeſty could, with much pleaſure, ſee the return of a Miniſter, to her Court, whom ſhe eſteems much, and who has had the happineſs to deſerve her confidence; but when ſhe reflected on the jealouſies which ſuch a journey, at ſuch a criſis, might cauſe, ſhe thought it her duty to prefer the intereſts of his Catholic Majeſty, to her own ſatisfaction.

The Queen, Madam, has charged me to renew her aſſurances to you Highneſs, that ſhe will ſupport your pretentions for the future, as ſhe has hitherto done, and that ſhe wiſhes to regard your Highneſs as one of the bonds that form the union ſhe wiſhes to maintain, as long as ſhe lives, with their Catholic Majeſties.

His Majeſty's condeſcenſion to the Queen, in the affair of Prince de la Riccia, affects her Majeſty ſenſibly; the greater his crime was, the greater is the King's clemency, and the Queen's obligation.

Your Highneſs, before I cloſe my letter, will permit me to notice the very great pleaſure I receive upon reading what you had the goodneſs to write to me, concerning Count de Montijo. As marriage is, perhaps, the moſt important action in a man's life, my friend could not do better than give up to your Highneſs the choice of his wife; it is a freſh proof of the goodneſs of his underſtanding, and an additional reaſon to increaſe, if it be poſſible, the eſteem and tenderneſs I conceived for him, during his ſtay with us. It remains that I aſk your Highneſs's pardon for the length of my letter, and intreat you to be perſuaded that I am, &c.

B.

I ought not to forget to return your Highneſs my very humble thanks for all your kindneſs to Count de Lecheraine.

To Count de Montijo. (Page 498).

MY DEAR COUNT,

Windſor, September 16, 1713.

I REPLY to your two letters of the 25th Auguſt, and 4th September, for which I am beyond expreſſion obliged to you. Becauſe I eſteem and love you, your intereſts become mine. I take the ſame part in your preferment as I do in my own; and I ſwear to you, that even in diſgrace, if ſuch ſhould be my lot, your happineſs would be a conſolation to me. Love me then always, for I indeed deſerve it of you. I am much obliged to you for the politeneſs you have ſhown to Count de Lecheraine; he is an officer of much diſtinction, and my old companion.

How agreeably you flatter me, my dear boy, when you give me the pleaſing hope of ſeeing you one day again. My heart tells me it will ſo happen. The Princeſs Urſini, however, writes, that you wiſh her to ſelect a wife for you, and after marriage, you have not the appearance of a rambler. In a word, if you do not come to Great Britain, I will go to Spain to embrace you.

All your friends here equally love and regret you. Windham is promoted to the place of Chancellor of the Exchequer; and I believe you will ſee in the ſucceſſor to Lexington, a man whom, if I am not miſtaken, you have known and approved. Farewell, my dear Count. I am, &c.

B.

To

To the Duke d'Aumont. (Page 499).

SIR,

Windſor, September 15th, 1713.

WITH this letter you will receive the anſwer the Queen has ordered me to make to the memorial you laſt ſent me. I write to Prior, by the meſſenger that will ſet off to-morrow, on the ſubject we diſcourſed upon on Sunday. The anſwers to the letters I wrote concerning the ſhips you reclaim, I ſhall have in a day or two. I will inform you of them directly. I ſend you the extract you wiſhed to have, of the letters of the Princeſs Urſini, on the ſubject of Prince de la Riccia. Your cloth will be reſtored, and Sir William Wyndham will take a pleaſure in being uſeful to the perſon named James, when he returns from his election. At preſent my time paſſes unpleaſant enough; but I hope to be recompenſed during the four days I am to paſs with you.

Farewell, my dear Duke. I am, &c.

B.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 514).

Fontainbleau, September 11th, 1713.

I DO not ſo much compliment you, my Lord, as myſelf, upon the change in your department. I expect to gain much from it, and I alſo fancy, you will not be diſpleaſed to have, in future, a more immediate and frequent connection with a country, where you are ſo much beloved and honoured as you are in France. I wiſh ſoon to have other compliments to make to you; and whatever may be the rewards which your merits and ſervices may obtain, I venture to aſſure you, my Lord, that no perſon will feel greater intereſt on the occaſion than, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 514).

Windſor, September 29th, O.S. 1713.

HAVING gained, by a late promotion made by the Queen, the choice of the departments, you will ſuppoſe, Sir, I did not heſitate a moment to ſelect that in which France is ſituate; among a variety of other reaſons, the ſole conſideration, that I ſhould, by that means, have frequent occaſions to make you remember me, was ſufficient to determine my choice. Believe me, Sir, I ſpeak to you without affectation or flattery, when I aſſure you, there is nothing I more ardently deſire, than the continuation of your friendſhip; that is a ſufficient ſubſtitute for all the rewards you wiſh me; it is a bleſſing which is only granted to thoſe who have ſome merit, whereas rewards are often the portion of thoſe who have none at all; if, then, they ſeek me, I am not ſo detached from the world as to refuſe them; and in caſe they do not ſeek me, I am philoſopher enough, and ſufficiently worthy of your friendſhip to conſole myſelf with it. I conjure you to have that opinion of me to believe this truth, as alſo, that I am, &c.

B.

From what has been told me as from you, I ſhall propoſe to the Queen, to diſpatch the Earl of Scarſdale, whom ſhe named, ſome months ago, her Envoy Extraordinary at Vienna. Her Majeſty intending to recompenſe, at home, the good ſervices which your friend Matthew has performed for her, will, in a ſhort time, recall him for that purpoſe. His ſucceſſor will be Mr. Roſs, a man of quality, and much attached to your ſervants: he is a lieutenant-general in her armies, and colonel-general of dragoons. I ſhould add, that it is only until ſhe name an Ambaſſador.

To

To the Duke d'Aumont. (Page 528.)

From my Stable, October 21ſt, 1713.

AMONG dogs and horſes, in the midſt of the moſt profound retreat, I have nothing to wiſh for, to make me completely happy, but the converſation of the dear Duke d'Aumont. Since, apparently, I ſhall not ſee you for a long time, and perhaps never, let us occaſionally write to each other.

You return to France, and I know how unneceſſary it is to rouſe you to the ſupport of a good correſpondence between our two nations. I ſwear that if I continue in future to labour as I have hitherto done, the principal inducement is my ſincere deſire to perfect and ſtrengthen that union, which has been formed in ſpite of all the efforts that malice could invent or execute. I believe you know me well enough to give credit to what I ſay.

Your relation will find in me a very ſincere friend, and a faithful ſervant. I expect to give you an anſwer, by the Queen's order, to the letter you wrote to her Majeſty, as ſoon as I return from Windſor.

My friends here well remember you, with all the eſteem and tenderneſs which you merit; and your health ſhall never be omitted in any place where I make one of the company.

The cypher ſhall be ſent you without fail. I anſwer for your ſatisfaction upon the aſſiento; But I will not anſwer, in like manner, for Monſieur Saintard.

Farewell, my dear Duke; I embrace you a thouſand and a thouſand times: may I ceaſe to live when I ceaſe to be, with perfect devotion, &c.

B.

Note. (Page 550.)

Minutes agreed upon between the Plenipotentiaries of Spain and Portugal at Utrecht.

THE colony du Sacrement ſhall be reſtored in the ſpace of after the ratification of this treaty, to be poſſeſſed by the King of Portugal, in full propriety, as his Majeſty poſſeſſed it immediately before the commencement of this war. But there ſhall be reſerved for the King of Spain the power to offer to the King of Portugal an equivalent for the ſaid colony, to the ſatisfaction of the King of Portugal; and there ſhall be allowed the term of to offer and examine the ſaid equivalent: and in caſe the ſaid offer be accepted, the colony ſhall be given in exchange to the King of Spain; if it is not accepted, the colony ſhall remain with the King of Portugal, as aforeſaid.

With regard to the aſſiento and the ſhips, it is ſuppoſed that a compoſition might be agreed upon for the ſhipping, for all that is not liquidated in the aſſiento, as alſo for the inheritance of Don Franciſco Bernardo; in like manner, for veſſels taken from the Portugueſe on account of the war: Portugal taking upon herſelf to ſatisfy the Engliſh merchant, Hodges, for his pretenſions to the ſaid ſhipping; it being well underſtood that the balance ſhall be paid.

With reſpect to the houſes, reference ſhall be had to the 8th article of the treaty of 1668, which ſhall be again confirmed; and ample juſtice ſhall be done, both in Spain and Portugal, to every one intereſted.

A term of four or five months ſhall be agreed upon for the reſtitution of Albuquerque, La Puebla, Hondar, the colony du Sacrement, and all other places ſeized upon by either party, in any quarter of the world, in the ſtate they were in at the beginning of the war.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 566.)

My Lord,

Verſailles, December 14th, 1713.

DID I not know how much Monſieur d'Iberville wiſhes to pleaſe you, and to merit the honour of your eſteem, I ſhould not take the liberty to entreat your kindneſs for him, which he will certainly ſtrive to deſerve, I dare anſwer for him; and among many good qualities, which influenced the King's choice in his favour, the principal one with me is his reſpect for you, founded upon his perſonal and acquired knowledge of you. I have often had the pleaſure to ſpeak with him of you, and I reckoned when his Majeſty ſelected him, that I ſhould from him hear frequently of you. I deſire nothing with more earneſtneſs, than to hear, as I hope I ſhall, that you will always preſerve for me ſome ſhare in the honour of your friendſhip. You know, my Lord, how highly I value it; and I beg you to believe, that I am, &c.

De Torcy.

To

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 567.)

SIR,

Windſor, December 29th, 1713.

IT would be wrong to ſuffer Monſieur de la Faye to depart, without charging him with my very humble thanks, for giving me occaſion to become acquainted with ſo honourable a man. I flatter myſelf that he is not altogether diſſatisfied with me; it is certain I parted from him with regret. He will give you an account of his audience of the Queen, of what her Majeſty ſaid to him, and what I explained to him by her order: I therefore refer to what he will relate to you *vivâ voce*; and ſhall confine myſelf to ſay, that the affairs of commerce being fortunately ſettled, you may depend upon it, that the inclinations of people, in this country, will be as you could wiſh, and that the Queen will conſequently be enabled to take vigorous meaſures to concur with the King in ſubduing the obſtinacy of the Imperialiſts, and other enemies, to the repoſe of Europe. I am, &c.

B.

To the Count de Montijo. (Page 582.)

Whitehall, January 14th, 1713-14.

MY letters are of no great value, but ſtill I regret much the loſs of ſome of thoſe, which I did myſelf the honour to write to you, my dear Count, ſince I cannot endure the thought that you ſhould entertain the leaſt ſuſpicion, that length of time, or diſtance of ſituation, can cauſe any alteration in the ſincere and endearing friendſhip which I have ſworn to you, and which I will cheriſh through life. The bands of that friendſhip unite me ſo cloſely to you, that your good or ill fortune muſt, of neceſſity, regulate the happineſs or miſery of my lot. Judge, then, by this rule, of the joy I experienced, when I heard of the diſtinction the Catholic King paid to your merit, by giving you the order of the Fleece. Such a favour will procure you the envy of many; and I hope their number will increaſe, becauſe I hope the King will increaſe theſe proofs of his regard for you. It is ſaid, that envy is never ſubdued till after death: that may be true in general; but the ſureſt method, either to ſubdue it or to render its attacks vain and fruitleſs, is to juſtify the favours of a Prince by the brilliant diſplay of our virtues, and the merit of faithful ſervices. Such, my dear Count, will not be difficult to you, for God has given you every neceſſary ability to ſucceed, and every inclination to make a proper uſe of them.

The Princeſs Urſini will perhaps tell you what I have written on this ſubject; I ſhould have done ſo if you had not mentioned it; but I muſt, once for all, require you never more to make an excuſe for ſending your orders to me. Such ceremony ill becomes the character of friend, and, beſides, excuſes are never neceſſary but when ſomething diſagreeable is aſked; and you know that nothing in the world is ſo agreeable to me, as an opportunity of doing you ſervice.

Lord Bingley, whom you knew here, when Mr. Benſon and Chancellor of the Exchequer, is preparing with the utmoſt diligence for his embaſſy to Spain. He is one of our beſt ſubjects, and my intimate friend; as ſuch I ſend him to you, and as ſuch I beg you to receive him.

Farewell, my amiable Count; I am, &c.

B.

To the Princeſs Urſini. (Page 584.)

Whitehall, January 14th, 1713-14.

YOUR Highneſs will permit me to return you my very humble thanks, for your attention to the intereſts of Count de Lecheraine, whom I took the liberty to recommend to you. I fear I may be importunate, but I am more afraid of being ungrateful; and it were wrong to find oneſelf loaded with kind offices, and to be deficient in acknowledgment. Mine is very ſincere, and very ardent; and your Highneſs may, on all occaſions, diſpoſe of me as a ſervant devoted to you, without reſerve.

The letter which your Highneſs did me the honour to write, the 22d September, under the cover of which was the anſwer of her Majeſty the Queen of Spain, to that of the Queen my miſtreſs, did not reach me, by what accident I know not, till a ſhort time ſince. We already knew of the happy delivery of the Queen, which cauſed much joy to us all. But, agreeable to the ordinary courſe of events in this world, ſorrow quickly ſucceeded our joy; for in the midſt of perfect health, and when we leaſt expected ſo ſevere a blow, we found ourſelves on the eve of loſing the beſt Princeſs theſe kingdoms have ever known: in fact, the Queen was attacked with a violent fever, of which the firſt paroxiſm laſted full thirty hours. Happily for us, and, I may ſay, for the reſt of Europe, her Majeſty had only two; ſince then the fever terminated in the gout, a painful diſeaſe indeed, but not dangerous, and much deſired by the phyſicians.

Mr. Lawleſs, who is ſenſible of his obligations to your Highneſs, and who attends to your intereſt with all poſſible diligence, has imparted to me what has paſſed lately at the Hague, with regard to the ſovereignty. I laid the buſineſs before the Council, and the Queen has given her orders to the Earl of Strafford, who departs for Holland the firſt opportunity, in ſuch a manner as your Highneſs could wiſh. As it is probable the States-General grounded their reſolution on their advices from Raſtadt, Mr. Prior, the Queen's Miniſter at the Court of France, is inſtructed to inſiſt that nothing paſs in the negociation for peace with the Emperor, that may be of prejudice to the pretenſions of your Highneſs.

We muſt hope, that on one ſide the Moſt Chriſtian King will give his firm ſupport to an article which his Moſt Catholic Majeſty has ſo much at heart, and on the other, that the States will reflect, that their barrier does not depend leſs upon the Queen's ſupport than upon the conſent of the Emperor. The Queen will certainly not forego engagements which ſhe has undertaken with the Catholic King upon this buſineſs.

I cannot reſolve to cloſe this letter, without teſtifying to your Highneſs the extreme pleaſure with which I learned that the King of Spain had honoured Count de Montijo with the Golden Fleece. By a letter which he did me the honour to write, this young Lord appears to me full of that gratitude which is due to ſo powerful a patroneſs as your Highneſs. I am, &c.

B.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 589.)

Verſailles, January 28th, 1714.

IF there is any occaſion, my Lord, to make you a compliment, it is upon the Queen's recovery. Let me aſſure you, that knowing your zeal, your heart, and your ſituation, I ſuppoſed I felt as you did; and if I was miſtaken, it was, at moſt, becauſe I was leſs a philoſopher on your account than you are with reſpect to futurity. May God preſerve this great Princeſs, and grant her the ſatisfaction of ſoon ſeeing the work of peace, which ſhe has ſo urgently promoted, entirely completed. I ſhould expect it, my Lord, if we could luckily find, out of England, ſuch negociators as you; but if there be ſuch in other parts of Europe, which I doubt, we muſt not attempt to find them at the Court of Vienna. That Court, in their place, furniſhes plans and projects, which we cannot honour by calling them captious, its deſigns are too clearly diſcovered: and we notice nothing on the part of thoſe who draw up theſe plans, but the wiſh to be cunning, without the luck of gaining their point.

You will judge of them better than any perſon, when Monſieur d'Iberville has the honour to ſhow you the preliminary project, which I ſend him, ſuch as Prince Eugene preſented to Mareſchal de Villars. It is not at all ſurpriſing that a great General ſhould adopt a method of treating approved many years ago by him, and by another great General. Our Commander, more in the habit of gathering laurels than olive-branches, thinks that a Soldier little knows how to diſguiſe the truth, and places in Prince Eugene the ſame confidence as I have in Lord Bolingbroke. We ſhall ſoon ſee the effect, which will probably be the rupture of the conferences at Raſtadt. I could wiſh to ſee others opened with better proſpects, and I ſhall never think ſo until the Queen and her Miniſters have a ſhare in them.

In the mean time, my Lord, I have recourſe to you for another treaty of peace. Matthew is no leſs unjuſt than intolerable upon an article of which he is inceſſantly ſpeaking to me,

me, and of which you can judge better than any one: it is that of the three miſerable ſluices made at Dunkirk, at the expence of the country, before the places belonged to the King, and which they now wiſh to demoliſh, as being inſtrumental in clearing the harbour. It has been repreſented to Mr. Prior, there was no room to apprehend they could be of any uſe in that reſpect; that their deſtruction would be the ruin of the country: memorials, maps, plans, and every thing elſe have been tried, to convince him, without being able to ſubdue his obſtinacy. You, my Lord, and you only, by your orders, can recal him to reaſon, which he has abſolutely diſcarded upon this article; and I muſt ſay, you ſhould do ſo, as much out of pity to him as for the honour of the Queen: and ſeriouſly, the juſtice and goodneſs of her Britannic Majeſty are intereſted, not only not to demand, but even not to permit, this devaſtation, abſolutely uſeleſs as to the object ſhe has in view, and ruinous to the inhabitants of that unfortunate town, as well as to the country round about it.

I have ſeen you, my Lord, affected by ſuch reaſoning; you have ſince then been upon the ſpot. Let me intreat you to ſilence Matthew, ſo that, inſtead of quarreling with each other, we may, for the time to come, only diſcourſe upon your perfections. Upon this article we ſhall always agree, as I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Count de Montéleon. (Page 604.)

SIR,

Whitehall, February 12th, 1713-14.

THE ceremonies of Saturday, the Queen's birth-day, and the buſineſs that occurred on Sunday, Council-day, prevented me the honour of writing to you, as I propoſed, by the meſſenger who is now arrived at Utrecht, with the ratifications of the treaty of commerce. If I did not ſooner reſolve to anſwer your letter of the 2d ult. the reaſon was ſimply this, that I knew not in what manner to reply to it, until we were certain whether the treaty of commerce, ſuch as we had ſigned it, would be ratified or not. I will always ſpeak and write to you without reſerve; and were it neceſſary to do otherwiſe with you, I own, Sir, I ſhould find myſelf much embarraſſed.

Don Patricio Lawleſs is my witneſs how much I was affected by the oppoſition you experienced in Holland; I nevertheleſs was of your opinion, that one is never duped when one acts with honour, juſtice, and probity: I comforted myſelf with the conviction, that, ſooner or later, the King your maſter would do juſtice to your merit, and would ſee, in their true light, the great ſervices you had rendered him. You know, Sir, my full perſuaſion that the intereſts of our two nations are inſeparable; judge from that, as alſo from the friendſhip I promiſed you, and which I will ever entertain for you, how happy I was to learn that you are to return to us, and that I ſhall have the pleaſure to labour conjointly with a Miniſter ſo well diſpoſed and ſo enlightened as you are.

The rupture of the conferences at Raſtadt, and the advices you have received of what paſſed between the two Generals, will have made you maſter of ſeveral things which appeared doubtful to you. It is certain that in Holland, and elſewhere, they believed France would make certain ſacrifices to obtain a peace; and it is not ſurpriſing if people, who, for many reaſons, wiſh to obſerve great regard for the Emperor, ſhould dread to ſtipulate any thing offenſive to that Prince, and which, in their opinion, France might overlook in her treaty with him; but at preſent we have reaſon to hope, that the Councils of the States will view the conduct of his Imperial Majeſty in another light, and will ſee that the diſpute is not about ſomething more or leſs for the Elector of Bavaria, and for the Princeſs Urſini, but the object is either to overturn all that has been done at Utrecht, out of courteſy to the Houſe of Auſtria, or to force the Emperor to make a peace, ſo as to complete the ſyſtem to which ſo many other powers, by their treaties, have conſented. When the Miniſters of Holland reflect in this manner, I cannot ſuppoſe they will copy the politics of Vienna, and put off their peace with Spain, until his Imperial Majeſty thinks proper to conclude his with France.

The exchange of the ratifications of our treaties will contribute not a little to diſpoſe the minds of the Hollanders to conclude with you; and I reckon my Lord Strafford will exert

himſelf to this purpoſe in the moſt effectual manner. He will communicate to you the Queen's laſt orders, upon the pretenſions of the Princeſs Urſini. You will ſee, Sir, by her Majeſty's whole conduct, that ſhe never loſes ſight of her engagements; ſhe prides herſelf upon being a faithful ally. The Catholic King will find her ſuch with reſpect to him, and, conſequently, he ought not to take it ill, if ſhe firmly ſupports the intereſts of a Prince, with whom ſhe has the moſt ſolemn engagements; and who, as you know, Sir, in conſideration of the Queen, gave up many pretenſions, which, without doubt, would have embarraſſed the negociation, and have protracted the concluſion of the peace. You judge, Sir, I mean the King of Portugal; and I addreſs myſelf the rather to you, than to any other Miniſter upon this ſubject, becauſe you have witneſſed that when the Queen reſolved to ſign with France, and to propoſe that the Miniſters of Spain ſhould be admitted to the Congreſs, it was upon the full confidence that, the King of Portugal renouncing all pretenſions upon the continent of Spain, the peace ſhould be made upon the plan which, at that time, was ſent to you by the Earl of Dartmouth. You contributed to finiſh this negociation by minutes concerted at Utrecht, but the notes drawn up at Madrid made your good intentions fruitleſs.

Let me refer you to what I have written to Don Patricio Lawleſs on this ſubject, and let me conjure you to labour ſeriouſly to draw this thorn out of our ſide. As for the reſt, Sir, you cannot arrive here ſooner than we wiſh you ſhould. You will find the Earl of Oxford and me, conſtant to our former opinion, and the Queen has directed me to aſſure you, ſhe ſhall be well pleaſed to ſee you. I am, &c.

B.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 607.)

Verſailles, February 7th, 1714.

MESSIEURS Aniſon and Fenelon, who have had the honour to be known to you, Sir, are ſetting out directly for London, with directions and diſpoſitions to enter upon and to execute their commiſſion to the mutual ſatisfaction and advantage of the two nations. I requeſt for them the continuance of your kind attention, and am, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Princeſs Urſini. (Page 615.)

MADAM,

Whitehall, February 19th, 1714.

IT is with the moſt ſincere and lively affection, that I take up the pen to condole with you upon the death of your great Queen. I venture to aſſure your Highneſs, that this melancholy event has baniſhed all the joy we experienced at the recovery of our Queen, and at the exchange of the ratifications lately effected at Utrecht. As your Highneſs was a nearer witneſs than any other perſon, of the virtues of this great Princeſs, and enjoyed her entire confidence and friendſhip, ſo muſt you feel, more than any one, the loſs which Spain and Europe has met with. I dare not be longer importunate, and confine myſelf to the expreſſion of my wiſhes, that your Highneſs may meet with every conſolation under ſuch extreme affliction. I am, &c.

B.

To the Duke d'Aumont. (Page 616.)

MY DEAR DUKE,

Whitehall, March 1ſt, 1713.

IF I have not ſooner anſwered your letter of December, it was, becauſe, I have been always in expectation of ſomething, capable of affording you amuſement, or worthy of your attention. But as nothing of this nature has hitherto offered, I thought it wrong to defer any longer my humble thanks for all the favours you conferred upon me, for the friendſhip you preſerve for me, and for the flattering manner in which you ſpoke of me to the King. You are acquainted with the ſentiments of a heart, in which you have ſuch a ſhare: and you know, Sir, that I am very capable of not acting at all, and of clothing my indolence with the honour-

able

able pretext of philoſophy, yet I am incapable of acting againſt theſe ſentiments even on the moſt trifling occaſion. Ambition can attain very few things in this country, and ſince your departure, I feel the reliſh for pleaſure conſiderably diminiſhed: provided you are contented with me upon the firſt of theſe two articles, I am ſure you will not be diſcontented upon the laſt. Ought I not to compliment you upon the fortunate cataſtrophe of the negociation at Raſtadt? It appears to us here, who only examine theſe affairs at a diſtance, that the Emperor cannot reſolve to conclude one war, without laying the foundation for another. This letter will be ſafely delivered to you, ſince I ſend it by a man belonging to me, and who is going to bring back young Villars, whom his mother carried off in ſo extraordinary a manner attended with circumſtances ſo offenſive to the Queen. You will recollect what her Majeſty ſaid to you on this buſineſs; ſince you left us it became more ſerious, and I dare aſſure you, that the imprudence of Lady Jerſey, might have occaſioned much harm to many people of your religion.

Wherever I am, the Duke d'Aumont ſhall certainly not be forgotten; may he in like manner bear me in his rememberance, and be aſſured, that I ſhall be as long as I live, &c.

B.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 617.)

Verſailles, February 25th, 1714.

THE gift of perſuaſion is attached, my Lord, to the deſire to execute the Queen's orders, and to the eagerneſs to pleaſe you. I have juſt experienced it, and have found Lady Jerſey ready to ſend her ſon back to England, as ſoon as ſhe knew in what manner the Queen had lately ſpoken to Monſieur d'Iberville on the ſubject, and what you have ſince added. This reſolve, however, coſts her many a tear, but ſhe thinks obedience a duty to be preferred to every other conſideration. Her dependence is entirely upon you, my Lord, and upon your protection of her ſon. She begs you to take care of him, according to your promiſe, to ſuperintend his education, to direct that an account be given you of it, to have him with you at holiday-time, in a word, to hold the place of a father to him, and to revive, in the perſon of this child, all the friendſhip you had for the late Earl of Jerſey.

Though ſhe was to give me a letter for you, my Lord, I fulfil my promiſe to her, by delivering the commiſſion with which ſhe intruſted me to you.

I would willingly ſuppreſs our complaints againſt Matthew; his zeal and eagerneſs to execute your orders, and thoſe of my Lord Treaſurer, have made him hateful to Lady Jerſey, and, happen what will, ſhe will not commit her ſon to him. She deſires you will ſend ſome perſon to Paris, to whom ſhe will confide him, being certain he will be in good hands, provided he be delivered to a man choſen by you. She deſires as the laſt favour, that neither Lord Lanſdown, nor his Lady, have any concern in the education of the little Villars, placing her entire confidence in you alone, my Lord, and in the Queen's goodneſs.

I hope you will grant all theſe conditions, and that this negociation will be leſs difficult to conclude than that of Raſtadt.

Monſieur d'Iberville will have the honour to give you an account of the laſt orders ſent to Mareſchal de Villars. They will finiſh the peace, if we could perſuade the Germans to be more tractable, but there are people who revolt againſt juſtice and reaſon, and are only made docile by fear. It appears to me, that we could eaſily put in practice this laſt expedient, when the good underſtanding between the King and the Queen is perfected, and I would be anſwerable, my Lord, for the ſucceſs of the inſtructions you ſhould give on that head.

Let me tell you then, Monſieur Buys has already quoted to me, *res eſt ſoliciti*, you told me what to anſwer, but I admire more than ever your preſence of mind and compoſure, without being able to imitate them.

I aſſure you, my Lord, it is always with the ſame pleaſure I call to mind every thing I have heard you ſay, and am not ſingular in regretting the ſhortneſs of time we enjoyed your company here. I am, &c.

DE TORCY.

From the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 619.)

Verſailles, February 25th, 1714.

THOUGH I make no doubt, Sir, that Monſieur de Legondez, colonel of the King's cavalry, will obtain from you the conſideration he truly deſerves, I hope you will think me right, in declaring the real intereſt I have in what concerns him, and requeſt of you the good offices and protection, which his affairs in England, where he married, may require. I will ſhare with pleaſure in his obligations to you, and I beg of you to believe, &c.

DE TORCY.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 620.)

Whitehall, March 1ſt, 1713-14.

THE news you have taken the trouble to impart to me, Sir, in your letter of the 25th ult. gives me a pleaſure, which, like the gratitude I feel, I cannot expreſs. In reſtoring to us the little fugitive, whom his mother, through exceſs of tenderneſs, was going to ruin beyond recovery, you do an action worthy of you. Were there gratitude among the dead, or could they communicate their thoughts, you would have the reſpects of the late Earl of Jerſey; but, as that cannot be, be pleaſed to accept of mine, in quality of friend and relation to the houſe of Villars.

Lady Jerſey may rely, and I entreat you, Sir, to be on this occaſion my guarantee, that I will neglect nothing in my power, in the education of her ſon, and his advancement. The perſon I have ſelected to receive him is my equerry, an honeſt man, and for whom I dare be anſwerable in any manner. I hope Lady Jerſey will immediately give her ſon to his care, for I have ordered him to haſten his return.

I am, Sir, entirely convinced, that there are people who are to be made tractable only through fear, and that the good underſtanding ſubſiſting between the two Courts enables us to employ that expedient very uſefully; but is it poſſible you can ſtand in need of it to conclude your treaty with the Emperor? ought I not, on the contrary, to give you joy on the happy concluſion of the conferences at Raſtadt? The Emperor, in making the peace, ſeems indeed to ſow the ſeeds of new troubles, and perhaps it would not be wrong, even now, to employ the motive of fear, to ſtop the progreſs of thoſe noble deſigns which the council of Spain eſtabliſhed at Vienna, who has nothing elſe to do, are, at preſent, amuſing themſelves in bringing forward.

Your compliment, Sir, is very flattering to me; but it is certain, that if I ever do any good, it is while I am animated by your orders, and aſſiſted by your councils.

I ſay nothing of our home affairs. M. d'Iberville, in whom I repoſe ſuch a confidence as you wiſh, is able to give you all the explanations you may require. I believe, he ſays enough to ſhow you, that we merit your pity rather than your cenſure, if affairs here do not go on as we could wiſh. I am, &c.

B.

To the Princeſs Urſini. (Page 639.)

MADAM,

Whitehall, April 23d, 1714.

HAD the war unfortunately laſted till now, ſuch was our opinion of your incomparable Queen, that, I dare aſſure your Highneſs, her death would have been lamented in no country with greater ſincerity than in Great Britain. From this you may judge of our ſorrow in loſing a Princeſs who had not only contributed to make the peace, but from whoſe influence we promiſed ourſelves the entire accompliſhment of the ſtrict union, which the providence of God permitted to be interrupted, only to prove more clearly, both to Spaniards and Britons, how much it is their intereſt to preſerve it entire, and to prevent its receiving any ſhock from the broils of the reſt of Europe.

It is not proper for me to ſpeak to your Highneſs of the Queen's ſentiments on this melancholy occaſion; her Majeſty, writing herſelf to the Catholic King, will deſcribe her reflections on the paſt, and her views in future, better than I can poſſibly do. But your Highneſs will pleaſe to allow me to ſay two words upon a ſubject of which Mr. Lawleſs is informed, and concerning which he will have the honour to write to you more at large. Your Highneſs will recollect, that we have often repreſented from hence, the alarm we were in, leſt different treaties and agreements, not being perfected, and conſequently the general negociation ſtill too open, the Imperial Court, and the other enemies of the peace, without, and the faction leagued with them, within the kingdom, ſhould, in time, find means to raiſe new impediments to the reſtoration of the general quiet. In fact, during the laſt ſeſſion of Parliament, they laboured to this purpoſe with wonderful aſſiduity, and exerted their utmoſt efforts to divert the Queen from the purſuit of thoſe meaſures which ſhe had adopted, and which had been, for more than three years, the uniform object of her endeavours. They were unſucceſsful, all their ſchemes miſcarried, and the two Houſes gave their opinion upon the peace, and upon the moſt proper means to make it general, in ſo deciſive a manner, that the Queen, if I dare uſe the expreſſion, finds herſelf, more than ever, miſtreſs of her actions.

In the heat of this conteſt, an occurrence happened which gave her Majeſty much uneaſineſs. There are times when endeavours are made to inflame the minds of the people by ſuppoſed deſigns on foot in favour of the Chevalier de St. George. The reſidence of Mr. Lawleſs at our Court was alledged as a fact in ſupport of theſe ſuſpicions. The conduct of that gentlemen has been irreproachable; he has deſerved the eſteem and confidence of all honourable men; and even thoſe who were the moſt forward on this occaſion, could not withhold the praiſe that was due to his character. But he was born a ſubject of the Queen, and had ſerved her deceaſed father. Your Highneſs, unaccuſtomed to thoſe convulſions, which popular governments experience from time to time, will perhaps be ſurpriſed at the account I give you. Theſe diſorders are the bad effects of a very good cauſe, and we are indemnified by the one, for what we ſuffer by the other. The Queen, to quiet the public mind, and to gain the object ſhe propoſed, thought this pretence, of which our faction availed themſelves, ſhould be removed; but the regard ſhe has for the Catholic King, and which ſhe wiſhes ever to preſerve, embarraſſed her much.

In this ſituation of affairs, I took upon me to open the buſineſs to Mr. Lawleſs. As he knows perfectly well the conſtitution of this kingdom, and the genius of the people, he agreed with me, that he ſhould do the Queen an eſſential ſervice, and conſequently ſhould not diſpleaſe the King his maſter, if he pretended to have received orders from Court to repair to the Spaniſh Miniſters in Holland. I cannot expreſs to your Highneſs how much the Queen felt at this mark of his prudence and zeal for the ſervice. She has directed me to write upon it to your Highneſs, and to beg you will continue to Mr. Lawleſs your powerful protection, of which he is every way worthy.

Lord Bingley, whom the Queen has nominated her Ambaſſador-extraordinary to the King of Spain, will ſet off in a week. The Queen wiſhes for nothing ſo much as the eſtabliſhment of ſuch a correſpondence with his Catholic Majeſty as is rarely met with among Princes; and, for this purpoſe, ſhe has ſelected the moſt proper perſon of her whole Court. On the ſubject of the Catalans and Majorcans, your Highneſs will allow me to refer to what Lord Bingley will have the honour to tell you. With regard to the ſovereignty, the ueen will, at the congreſs at Baden, and every where elſe, uſe the moſt effectual means to accompliſh her promiſe; and provided France will, though in ever ſo ſmall a degree, continue firm upon this article, I doubt not it will be accompliſhed to your Highneſs's ſatisfaction in the enſuing treaty. I am, &c.

B.

To the Marquis de Monteleon. (Page 641.)

SIR,

Whitehall, April 27th, 1714.

THE indiſpoſition under which I have for ſome days laboured, not only prevents my writing to you with my own hand, but will alſo oblige me to be more brief than I intended, upon the preſent poſture of our affairs. Mr. Lawleſs, who is going to join you, will amply ſup-

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ply this deficiency. You will, perhaps, be ſurprized at ſeeing him, but when you have heard his account of what has paſſed here, and his reaſons for reſolving to repair to Holland, I am perſuaded you will be of opinion, that he has acted like a man of ſenſe, and, by contributing to the fortunate cloſe of our Seſſion of Parliament, he has done an eſſential ſervice to his maſter. In thoſe governments where there is a portion of democracy, it very often becomes reaſonable to yield to unreaſonable demands; and in order to carry the bulk of affairs forward to the object we propoſe, it is ſometimes neceſſary to pacify the public mind by compliances which are neither prudent nor becoming. I am writing to a Miniſter converſant in the affairs of the world, ſo that I doubt not you will form a proper judgment of what has happened, and will make ſuch a repreſentation to your Court of this miſchance, which certainly muſt be more grievous to us than to you.

The eaſy and compliant conduct of France, at the conferences at Raſtadt, has certainly made the Emperor aſſume an air of ſuperiority, ill proportioned to the ſtate he is in; and, after this, it is no wonder that the Dutch diſplay the moſt extravagant ſigns of ſubmiſſion to the Houſe of Auſtria.

You mention an inſtance of this ſubmiſſive conduct in reſpect to the ſovereignty of the Princeſs Urſini; I could mention many others, in which they treat the Queen, at leaſt, as cavalierly as the King of Spain; and in which, in order to make their court to the Emperor, they ſacrifice the intereſts of their religion, and thoſe of Europe in general. Endeavours muſt be made to ſuggeſt other ſentiments to the Miniſters of that Republic; and to ſucceed, means muſt be found to make the Court of Vienna more tractable; let me frankly tell you, that for this purpoſe, your Court muſt be more compliant and mine more firm; try to effect the one, while I am labouring to accompliſh the other.

Lord Bingley leaves us for Madrid, in ſeven or eight days; in the name of God let the King place ſome confidence in him. He will be empowered to make overtures for a more cloſe connection between our two Courts, and to propoſe certain meaſures, which, if I am not miſtaken, will, in ſpite of the obſtinacy of ſome, and the compliance of others, terminate every thing to the ſatisfaction of his Catholic Majeſty. In the mean time, the Earl of Strafford will make another application to the Miniſters of the States; and the Queen will avail herſelf as far as ſhe can, of the towns entruſted to her, and of the ceſſion of the Netherlands made to her, by the Elector of Bavaria, to ſecure that ſovereignty for the Princeſs Urſini, which the King of Spain wiſhes ſhe ſhould enjoy.

Let me know when we are to expect to ſee you here, and do me the juſtice to believe, that I am, &c.

B.

Note. (Page 668.)

The Biſhop of Briſtol to Baron de Begue.

SIR,

Utrecht, November 8, 1713.

I EMBRACE, with pleaſure, every opportunity to teſtify my reſpect, and to aſſure you of a faithful return of that friendſhip you profeſſed for me when at Utrecht. Her Majeſty, the Queen of Great Britain, whom I have the honour to ſerve, finding that the Pretender to her crown has not yet left the territory of his Highneſs the Duke your maſter, notwithſtanding repeated applications for that purpoſe, has commanded me to deſire you would repreſent to his Highneſs, the dangers that may be apprehended to her Majeſty and her kingdoms, as alſo the Proteſtant ſucceſſion, in caſe the ſaid perſon continue any longer to reſide there, and how little ſuch protection accords with the friendſhip and good underſtanding which ſubſiſt between the Queen and his Highneſs. When I have the honour to meet you, I can explain this buſineſs more fully, and bring to your recollection ſome late addreſſes of Parliament to her Majeſty, as alſo other conſiderations, which, I am perſuaded, are ſo well known to you, that being repreſented to his Highneſs, by a miniſter ſo much eſteemed and ſo well affected as the Baron de Begue, will not fail of the deſired effect, namely, that the ſaid Pretender be no longer ſuffered to reſide in the dominions of the Duke your maſter. I am, &c.

JOHN BRISTOL.

Baron le Begue to the Biſhop of Briſtol.

MY LORD,

Hague, November 13th, 1713.

I RECEIVED the honour of your Excellency's letter of the 8th inſtant, this morning, which I will diſpatch to his Royal Highneſs to-morrow, and as ſoon as I know his intentions, I will communicate them to you, without fail. In the mean time, my Lord, I muſt beg of you to recollect, that when the Chevalier de St. George came to reſide at Bar, I was ordered to inform you, that his Royal Highneſs my maſter would not have afforded him an aſylum, but at the preſſing inſtance of the Court of France, which even engaged his Royal Highneſs to ſolicit paſſports as well from the Imperial Court as from the States-General for his ſecurity: at preſent, my Lord, I do not know that the inſtances you mention were repeated, or that my maſter is at liberty to ſend out of his dominions a Prince, whom he received only at the requeſt of the Moſt Chriſtian King. This, my Lord, I ſubmit to your Excellency's prudence. I am, &c.

T. LE BEGUE.

Copy of his Royal Highneſs the Duke of Lorrain's Letter to Baron Le Begue, his Miniſter at the Hague.

SIR,

November 17th, 1713.

I RECEIVED your letter of the 11th inſtant, this morning, incloſing that of the Lord Biſhop of Briſtol from Utrecht, with a copy of your anſwer, which I approve of. I own my ſurpriſe at the demand of his Excellency, and my intention is, that you ſhould reply, that having nothing more at heart than to preſerve the Queen's favour and goodneſs for me, I will loſe no opportunity of deſerving them, but that with reſpect to the demand, that I ſhould remove the Chevalier de St. George from my dominions, I can make no other anſwer, than that, with the knowledge and conſent of all Europe, he came to reſide in my dominions, which being a neutral country, are open to all the world; that even the Emperor granted him a paſſport for that purpoſe, with this reſtriction, not to depart thence, and I have nothing more to reply, theſe reaſons being conſidered as ſubſtantial. I hope the Biſhop of Briſtol will continue his friendſhip towards me, and by his good offices with the Queen preſerve for me the honour of her protection, which I moſt ardently deſire.

LEOPOLD.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 676.)

SIR,

Whitehall, July 29th, 1714.

THOUGH I have juſt written largely to Meſſrs. d'Iberville and Prior, the Queen is deſirous I ſhould avail myſelf of this meſſenger, to communicate to you her ſurpriſe and vexation, cauſed by the reports which have for ſome time prevailed here. It is aſſerted, that the Catholic King will no longer abide by his renunciations, nor the engagements he is under to prevent the re-union of the two monarchies. It is aſſerted, that Cardinal di Guidice is actually treating on this buſineſs at the Court of France; and it is added, which I will never believe, that he has obtained acts and declarations, contrary to what has been regulated by the treaties of Utrecht in this reſpect. Theſe reports make a greater impreſſion, in as much as they are confirmed by advices received by her Majeſty. I will not ſay to you, Sir, that after an attempt of this nature, the moſt ſolemn ſtipulations will, in future, be of no conſequence; neither will I enter into a diſcuſſion of the fatal conſequences attendant on the infraction of an article which forms the baſis of the peace, that would, in ſome meaſure, ſuppoſe theſe reports and advices were well founded: I will confine myſelf, Sir, to repreſent to you the neceſſity of quieting men's minds, upon a point of ſuch importance. The peace is not yet general, and nothing can contribute ſo much to throw difficulties in the way of the treaties, which remain to be made, as to ſee the infraction of thoſe which are already concluded.

ply this deficiency. You will, perhaps, be ſurprized at ſeeing him, but when you have heard his account of what has paſſed here, and his reaſons for reſolving to repair to Holland, I am perſuaded you will be of opinion, that he has acted like a man of ſenſe, and, by contributing to the fortunate cloſe of our Seſſion of Parliament, he has done an eſſential ſervice to his maſter. In thoſe governments where there is a portion of democracy, it very often becomes reaſonable to yield to unreaſonable demands; and in order to carry the bulk of affairs forward to the object we propoſe, it is ſometimes neceſſary to pacify the public mind by compliances which are neither prudent nor becoming. I am writing to a Miniſter converſant in the affairs of the world, ſo that I doubt not you will form a proper judgment of what has happened, and will make ſuch a repreſentation to your Court of this miſchance, which certainly muſt be more grievous to us than to you.

The eaſy and compliant conduct of France, at the conferences at Raſtadt, has certainly made the Emperor aſſume an air of ſuperiority, ill proportioned to the ſtate he is in; and, after this, it is no wonder that the Dutch diſplay the moſt extravagant ſigns of ſubmiſſion to the Houſe of Auſtria.

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The Biſhop of Briſtol to Baron de Begue.

SIR,

Utrecht, November 8, 1713.

I EMBRACE, with pleaſure, every opportunity to teſtify my reſpect, and to aſſure you of a faithful return of that friendſhip you profeſſed for me when at Utrecht. Her Majeſty, the Queen of Great Britain, whom I have the honour to ſerve, finding that the Pretender to her crown has not yet left the territory of his Highneſs the Duke your maſter, notwithſtanding repeated applications for that purpoſe, has commanded me to deſire you would repreſent to his Highneſs, the dangers that may be apprehended to her Majeſty and her kingdoms, as alſo the Proteſtant ſucceſſion, in caſe the ſaid perſon continue any longer to reſide there, and how little ſuch protection accords with the friendſhip and good underſtanding which ſubſiſt between the Queen and his Highneſs. When I have the honour to meet you, I can explain this buſineſs more fully, and bring to your recollection ſome late addreſſes of Parliament to her Majeſty, as alſo other conſiderations, which, I am perſuaded, are ſo well known to you, that being repreſented to his Highneſs, by a miniſter ſo much eſteemed and ſo well affected as the Baron de Begue, will not fail of the deſired effect, namely, that the ſaid Pretender be no longer ſuffered to reſide in the dominions of the Duke your maſter. I am, &c.

JOHN BRISTOL.

Baron le Begue to the Biſhop of Briſtol.

MY LORD,

Hague, November 13th, 1713.

I RECEIVED the honour of your Excellency's letter of the 8th inſtant, this morning, which I will diſpatch to his Royal Highneſs to-morrow, and as ſoon as I know his intentions, I will communicate them to you, without fail. In the mean time, my Lord, I muſt beg of you to recollect, that when the Chevalier de St. George came to reſide at Bar, I was ordered to inform you, that his Royal Highneſs my maſter would not have afforded him an aſylum, but at the preſſing inſtance of the Court of France, which even engaged his Royal Highneſs to ſolicit paſſports as well from the Imperial Court as from the States-General for his ſecurity: at preſent, my Lord, I do not know that the inſtances you mention were repeated, or that my maſter is at liberty to ſend out of his dominions a Prince, whom he received only at the requeſt of the Moſt Chriſtian King. This, my Lord, I ſubmit to your Excellency's prudence. I am, &c.

T. LE BEGUE.

Copy of his Royal Highneſs the Duke of Lorrain's Letter to Baron Le Begue, his Miniſter at the Hague.

SIR,

November 17th, 1713.

I RECEIVED your letter of the 11th inſtant, this morning, incloſing that of the Lord Biſhop of Briſtol from Utrecht, with a copy of your anſwer, which I approve of. I own my ſurpriſe at the demand of his Excellency, and my intention is, that you ſhould reply, that having nothing more at heart than to preſerve the Queen's favour and goodneſs for me, I will loſe no opportunity of deſerving them, but that with reſpect to the demand, that I ſhould remove the Chevalier de St. George from my dominions, I can make no other anſwer, than that, with the knowledge and conſent of all Europe, he came to reſide in my dominions, which being a neutral country, are open to all the world; that even the Emperor granted him a paſſport for that purpoſe, with this reſtriction, not to depart thence, and I have nothing more to reply, theſe reaſons being conſidered as ſubſtantial. I hope the Biſhop of Briſtol will continue his friendſhip towards me, and by his good offices with the Queen preſerve for me the honour of her protection, which I moſt ardently deſire.

LEOPOLD.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 676.)

SIR,

Whitehall, July 29th, 1714.

THOUGH I have juſt written largely to Meſſrs. d'Iberville and Prior, the Queen is deſirous I ſhould avail myſelf of this meſſenger, to communicate to you her ſurpriſe and vexation, cauſed by the reports which have for ſome time prevailed here. It is aſſerted, that the Catholic King will no longer abide by his renunciations, nor the engagements he is under to prevent the re-union of the two monarchies. It is aſſerted, that Cardinal di Guidice is actually treating on this buſineſs at the Court of France; and it is added, which I will never believe, that he has obtained acts and declarations, contrary to what has been regulated by the treaties of Utrecht in this reſpect. Theſe reports make a greater impreſſion, in as much as they are confirmed by advices received by her Majeſty. I will not ſay to you, Sir, that after an attempt of this nature, the moſt ſolemn ſtipulations will, in future, be of no conſequence; neither will I enter into a diſcuſſion of the fatal conſequences attendant on the infraction of an article which forms the baſis of the peace, that would, in ſome meaſure, ſuppoſe theſe reports and advices were well founded: I will confine myſelf, Sir, to repreſent to you the neceſſity of quieting men's minds, upon a point of ſuch importance. The peace is not yet general, and nothing can contribute ſo much to throw difficulties in the way of the treaties, which remain to be made, as to ſee the ifraction of thoſe which are already concluded.

I flatter myſelf that I ſhall ſoon receive your anſwer, and be by it enabled to give the Queen entire ſatisfaction. I am, &c.

B.

To the King. (Page 679.)

SIRE,

Whitehall, Auguſt 3rd, 1714.

THOUGH I dread being importunate, I can no longer defer a compliance with my inclination, and a diſcharge of my duty.

I therefore take the liberty, amid the acclamations of your people, to teſtify to your Majeſty, the joy I feel on becoming the ſubject of ſo great a Prince.

The ſame ſpirit actuates every one, and thoſe factions which were accuſtomed to diſturb this government, ſeem to have died away. God grant that your Majeſty's wiſdom and reſolution may prevent their revival!

With regard to myſelf, I venture to intreat your Majeſty to be perſuaded, that the ſame principles of honour and conſcience, which induced me to ſerve the late Queen until her death, with conſtancy and fidelity, will inviolably bind me to your Majeſty, and that, whether at Court, in Parliament, or in my County, I will endeavour, at all times, and in all places, to deſerve the title of,

Sire, your Majeſty's
Very humble, faithful, and obedient ſervant,

BOLINGBROKE.

To the Marquis de Torcy. (Page 681.)

SIR,

Whitehall, Auguſt 19th, 1714.

AFTER ſo ſevere a blow as I have juſt now experienced, the greateſt conſolation I could hope for, was the continuance of your friendſhip, of which you repeat the aſſurance in the letter which you troubled yourſelf to write to me.

I will ſtrive to deſerve it, whatever be my ſituation, and to ſubmit to my fate, be it what it may, in ſuch a manner, as to induce you never to retract your good opinion of me.

I am, and ſhall be, as long as life endures, with inviolable attachment, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

THE END.

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

ERRATA. VOL. I.

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8	20	Chrétienne	Chrétien.
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491	15	num defluit	dum defluat.
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